ファンタジスタ 12

FANTASISTA

MICHITERU KUSABA

草場道輝

Marco, Fabia, Falcani...
Di fronte alla formidabile
Nazianale giovanile italiana,
la formaziane giapponese
si trova in crisi.
Quale sará l'esito dell'ultimo
attacco, affidato a
Teppei e Kondo...!?

小学館
SHOGAKUKAN

ファンタジスタ 12 草場道輝
MICHITERU KUSABA

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The Japan Youth All-stars have been backed into a corner against the strongest Italian Youth All-stars, Marco, Fabio and Falconi! The final offensive is left up to Teppei and Kondo..!?

素晴らしきジョカトーレ達

アレッサンドロ・デル・ピエロ

ALESSANDRO DEL PIERO

［サッカー選手］

とゆーわけで、デル・ピエロ選手です。
コミックスを渡して握手してもらったんですが、
「あんまり強く握るとマンガが描けなくなっちゃうから軽くね。」
と、さわやかにジョークをとばしてくれました。
左サイドから緩急をつけ、GKを翻弄するファンタジスタは
とても気のいい兄ちゃんでした。
ケガなどで不調の時期が長かったんですが、
どうやらもう心配なさそうです。がんばれー。

草場道輝

SHORT STORY

MICHITERU KUSABA

Webサンデーにも書いたんですが、
さる11月7日、日本対イタリア戦を観て来ました。
しかもその前に、イタリア代表が宿泊している
ホテルまで行ってデル・ピエロ選手と握手してきました!!
アディダスさんのご厚意でー
てっぺいのシューズを
アディダスに履き替えさせた甲斐がありましたー
（えーえー何とでも言ってください。（泣笑））
いやもうなんてゆーか、月並なんですが…
漫画家になって良かったぁー。

COVER DESIGN,ZUNIGA-RYOJI YAMAGUCHI

ファンタジスタ

SS comics

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MICHITERU KUSABA

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SS comics

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Marco, Fabia, Falconi...
Di fronte alla formidabile Nazionale giovanile italiana, la formazione giapponese si trova in crisi. Quale sarà l'esito dell'ultimo attacco, affidato a Teppei e Kondo...!?

ファンタジスタ

FANTASISTA NUMBER 12

草場道輝
MICHITERU KUSABA

小学館
SHOGAKUKAN

Synopsis of the series up until now:

JAPAN YOUTH CUP FINAL. JAPAN VS. ITALY. AGAINST THE UNPARALLELED POWER OF ITALY'S FANTASISTA, MARCO, WE FIND THE JAPAN YOUTH ALL-STARS STUCK IN A ONE-SIDED, DEFENSIVE GAME.

IN THE SECOND HALF, WITH TWO GOALS SCORED ON THEM BY MARCO'S SKILLS, THE JAPAN ALL-STARS WERE IN BIG TROUBLE, BUT AFTER ENTERING EXTRA TIME, WITH THE EXTRAORDINARY COMBINATION OF PLAYMAKER KONDO AND STRIKER TEPPEI, THEY TIED THE GAME BY THE SKIN OF THEIR TEETH.

HOWEVER, IMMEDIATELY AFTER, MARCO ONCE AGAIN SCORED ANOTHER GOAL WITH HIS CREATIVITY, SENDING JAPAN INTO A TAILSPIN. THEY HAD ALLOWED ANOTHER GOAL FROM THEIR OPPONENTS WITH ALMOST NO TIME LEFT. ALTHOUGH READY TO ATTEMPT A FINAL COUNTER-ATTACK, THE JAPANESE TEAM CANNOT HIDE THEIR FRUSTRATION---

WITHIN THE MIDST OF THEM, ONE PLAYER, TEPPEI, STARING STRAIGHT AT THE ENEMY TEAM, HAS GAINED MORE CONCENTRATION. WHAT WILL HE DO!?

★前巻までのあらすじ★

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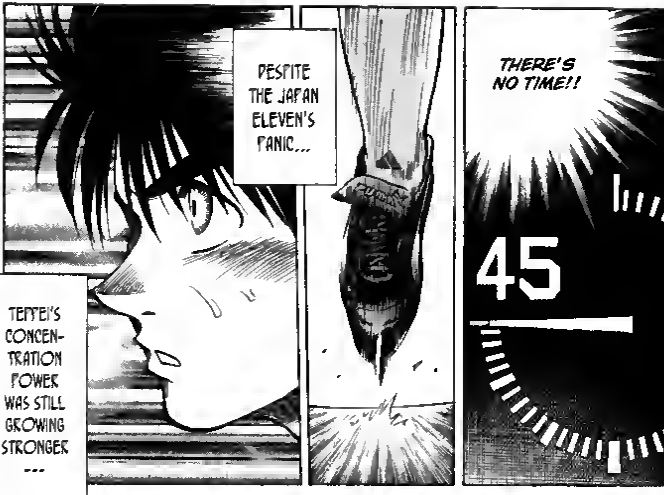
■草場道輝■

Chapter 97

Relative Will

THE REF IS LOOKING AT HIS WATCH!!
2

2


DESPITE THE JAPAN ELEVEN'S PANIC...
TEPPEI'S CONCEN-TRATION POWER WAS STILL GROWING STRONGER ---
THERE'S NO TIME!!
45

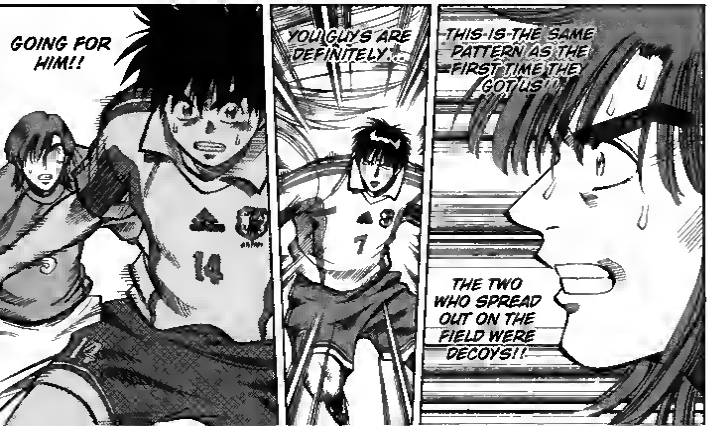
HE COULD FEEL...
EVERYTHING AROUND HIM SLOWING DOWN...
JAPAN
THAT GUY'S PERSPECTIVE MUST HAVE ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THIS...
3
NOW I CAN RELATE!!

THE BIG GUY!?
THE FAST GUY!?
OR..
THAT RUNT!?
GODAI, SAKAMOTO AND OKADA HAVE COME TOGETHER IN THE CENTER!!
DAMN!
WHO WILL IT BE!?

WHAT!!?
SAKAMOTO CUTS BACK-WARDS, MOVING AWAY FROM THE GOAL!!

AT THE SAME TIME, GODAI AND OKADA SPLIT TO THE FLANKS!!

I'VE GOT NUMBER 14!!
DON'T LOSE THE OTHER TWO!!


GOING FOR HIM!!
YOU GUYS ARE DEFINITELY...
THIS IS THE SAME PATTERN AS THE FIRST TIME THEY GOT US!!
THE TWO WHO SPREAD OUT ON THE FIELD WERE DECOYS!!

WHO WILL HE PASS IT TO!?
IS THE SILVER-HAIRED GENERAL, ANDREA FALCONI!!
THE ONE BLOCK-ING HIS PATH...
OR, WILL HE EVEN BE ABLE TO PASS IT!?
KONDO!! BEHIND YOU!!
MORIKAWA IS RUNNING UP BEHIND!!
EVEN HERE, MORIKAWA'S GAME HAS A CHANCE TO SHINE!!
8
FOR EVERY EXCEPTIONAL PLAYMAKER, THERE WAS A GREAT LIEUTENANT TO BALANCE HIM OUT!!
CRUIJFF AND NEES-KENS ..
JIGO AND SO-CRATES ...
PLATINI AND TIGANA ..

MO-RI-KA-WA!!
WITH MORI-KAWA INVOLVED IN THIS PLAY, THEY HAVE A CHANCE!!
JAPAN HAS IT, BUT ITALY DOESN'T.
9
SFX: THOOF
THE SPEED... TO MATCH WITH MY STRIDE... I SHOULD STRIKE IT WITH... THE INNER SIDE OF MY RIGHT FOOT!!
A ONE-TWO RE-TURN ...!?
NO...
THIS BALL IS SHOWING KONDO'S INTEN-TIONS!!
JAPAN
IT'S OUT TO MORIKA-WA!!
AND HE'S ALREADY DASHING AHEAD!!

A STRONG PASS, STRAIGHT AHEAD AND RIGHT!!
TECCHAN ....!!
SFX. SHOOPAMM

BINGO!!

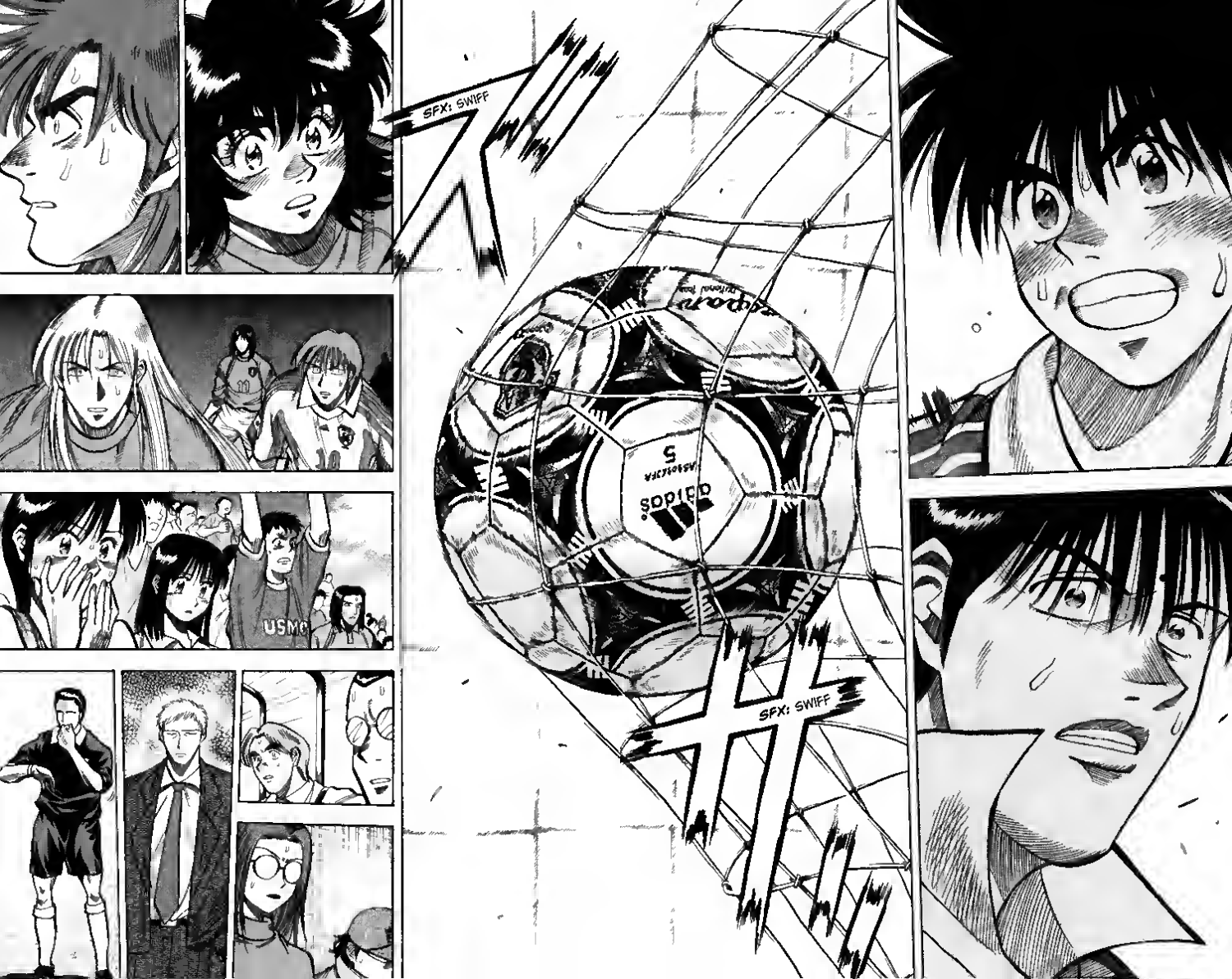
14

SFX: SWIFF SWIFF
FORWARDS MARCO AND GOTTI HAVE COME DOWN TO HELP TAKE SAKAMOTO OUT!!

YOU'RE NOT GETTING FARTHER THAN THIS!!
IT'S TAKING THREE PLAYERS TO STOP HIM!!
MARCO!!
ERIKA!

THIS GUY CAN MAKE A PASS EVEN FROM THERE, CAN'T HE!?

SFX: BOOM
!!
A GAP!?
THE ANGLE WAS A LITTLE OFF!
WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE ANY MORE!!
reusch


SFX: SWIFF
SFX: SWIFF
adidas
5
USMC

EO EO
SFX: PI-PI-PIIIIIH

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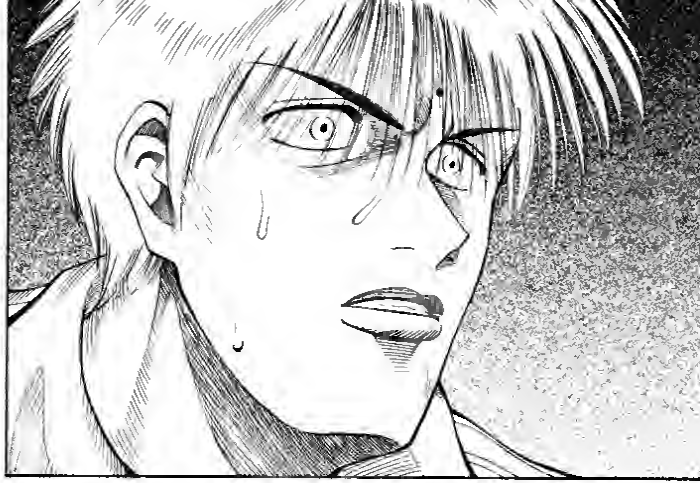
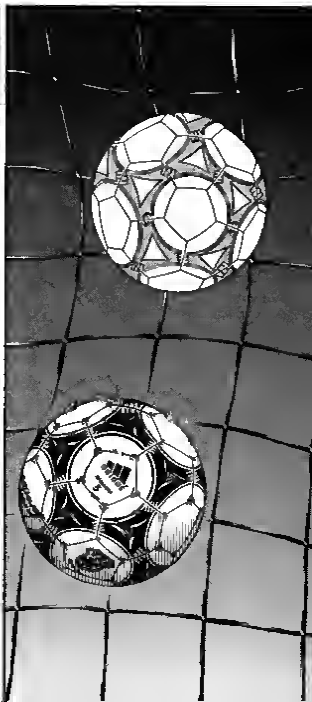
Chapter:
96

Chapter 98

Time's Up





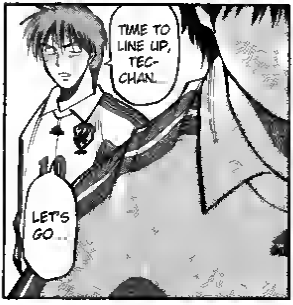
2

PIH
PIH
thud

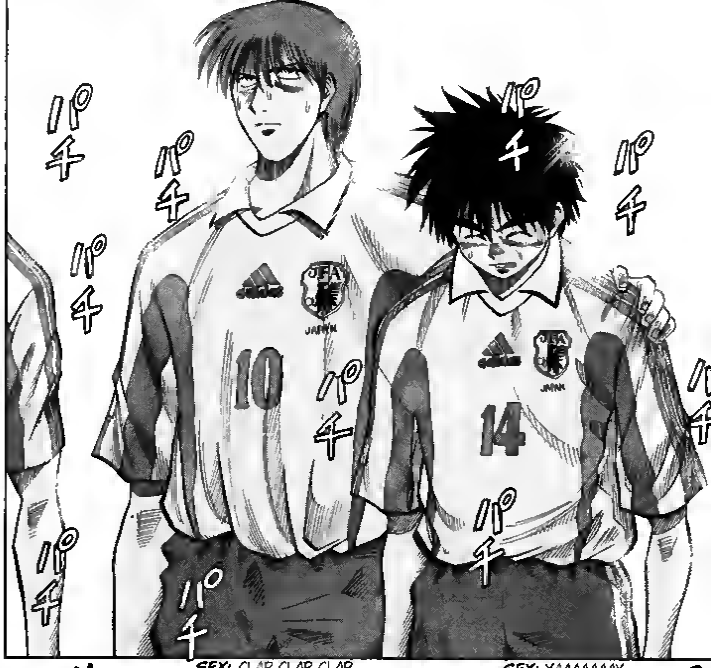
THE FIERCE BATTLE'S OVER, ITALY PULLS OFF A VICTORY, 2 (JAPAN) - 3 (ITALY)!
WE...
SFX: WOOOOOOOO
SFX: SWIPE
THE MATCH IS OVER!!!!
WITH KONDO'S MISSED SHOT, THE CRUEL WHISTLE BLOWS!!
PIIIIIII
SFX: YAAAAAAAAAAY
adidas
14

SFX: STOMP STOMP

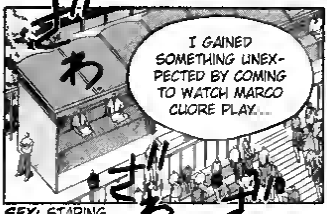
6



SOME EXCEPTIONAL PLAYERS ARE DEFINITELY DEVELOPING FROM THIS YOUNGER GENERATION!!
Ha Ha Ha!
JAPAN'S SUCCESS IN RECENT YEARS WASN'T A FLUKE
AND...
YOU WERE SURE TO KEEP YOUR EYES ON MORIKAWA THIS TIME, RIGHT, MR ROSSI...?
OF COURSE, FUJI. NUMBER 7 AND NUMBER 9 WERE GREAT!!
SFX: CLAP CLAP CLAP
パチ
7



SFX: CLAP CLAP CLAP

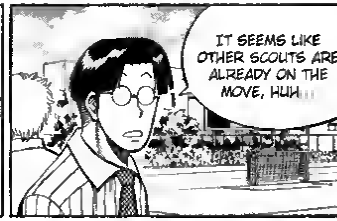


SFX: STARING

SFX: YAAAAAAAY

WELL DONE..!!
GREAT GAME..!!
THE JAPAN ELEVEN, WHO FOUGHT TO THE END ONLY TO LOSE BY A THIN MARGIN,
ARE RECEIVING A GENEROUS OVATION FROM THE FANS!!
パチ

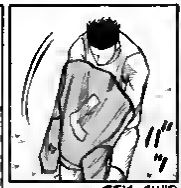
HH, HUH?


IT SEEMS LIKE OTHER SCOUTS ARE ALREADY ON THE MOVE, HUH

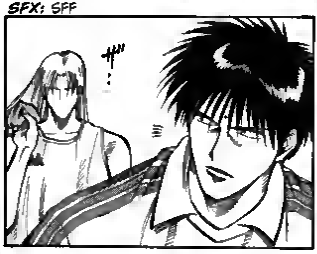
HEY... 14.

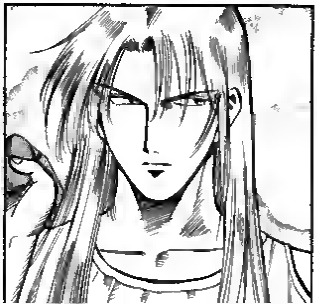
YOU'RE THE FIRST PERSON TO EVER TEAR OUR TEAM APART LIKE THAT

AS A SHOW OF RESPECT...

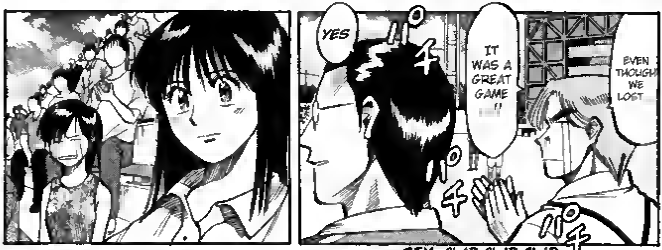

SFX: SWIP

SFX: SFF

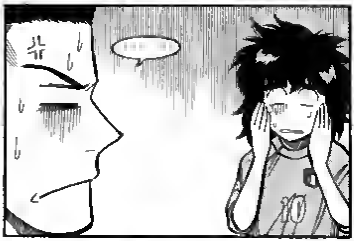




SFX: SWIP

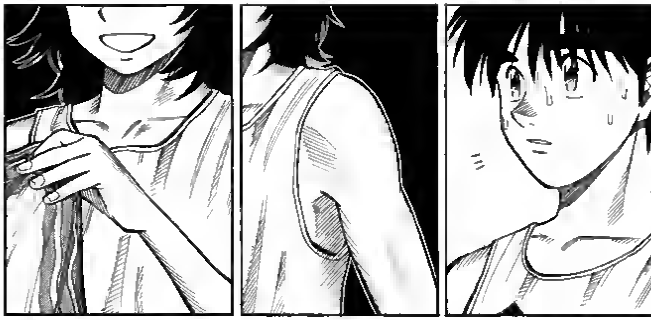


SFX: CLAP CLAP CLAP

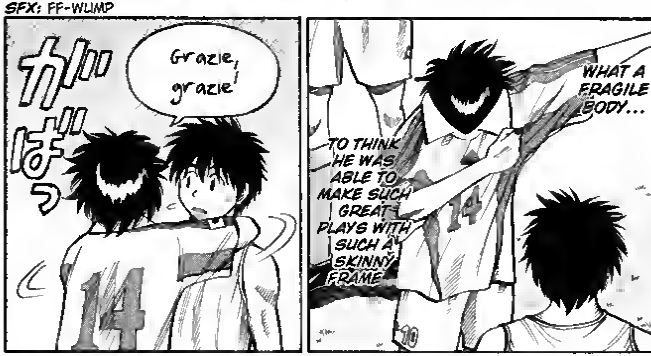


SFX: YAAAAY

SFX: BAM BAM

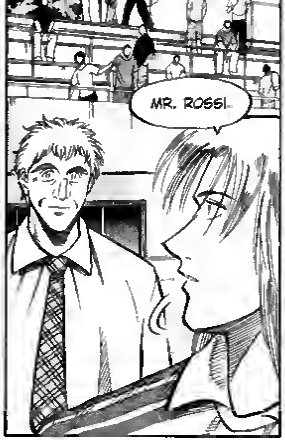


SFX: FF-WUMP



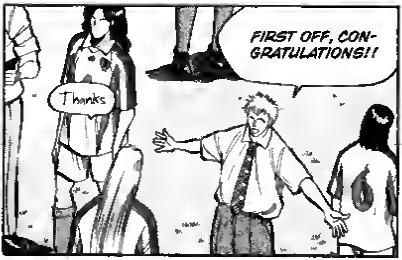
13

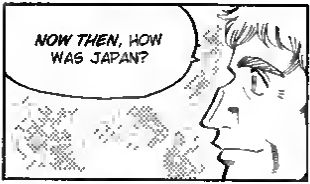
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN MARCO WANT TO TRADE UNIFORMS.
YEAH..
FOOTBALL ISN'T ONLY ABOUT STRENGTH... I THINK...
THE WAY I SEE IT, FANTA-SISTAS AND SUCH... ARE LIKE GLASS WORK.
adidas
GETTING CRUSHED INTO LITTLE PIECES WILL BE THEIR OWN SOUL IN MODERN FOOTBALL.

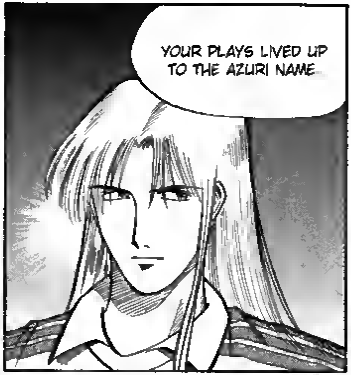

MR. ROSSI.

FALCONI.
YET NO ONE WANTED A UNIFORM FROM SOMEONE LIKE ME!!

THIS IS HOW I'M GOING TO SAY IT TO THE BIG GUYS...


FIRST OFF, CONGRATULATIONS!!
Thanks.

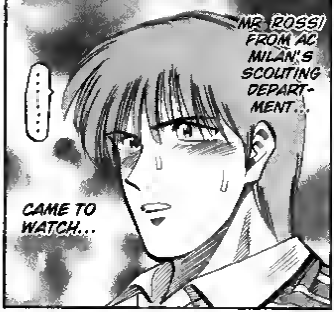

NOW THEN, HOW WAS JAPAN?

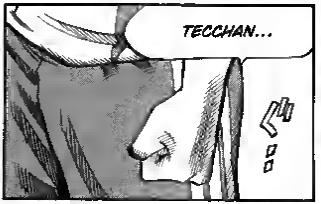

YOUR PLAYS LIVED UP TO THE AZURI NAME.

14

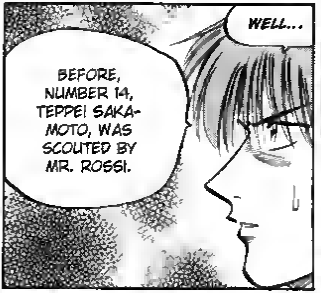
THEIR OFFENSE HAD FLAIR, WHILE THEIR DEFENSE WAS UNRELENTING.

IS THAT ...!!
IF WE PLAY EACH OTHER AGAIN, IT WOULD PROBABLY BE A MUCH MORE DIFFICULT GAME.
HOWEVER... IF THIS WASN'T AN AWAY GAME, WE WOULDN'T HAVE LET THEM HAVE SUCH A CLOSE BATTLE.
THEY'VE PUT TOGETHER A TEAM OF SUCH GREAT PLAYERS.
I SEE.
15
PLEASE WAIT, MR. ROSS!!!
IT LOOKS LIKE I'LL BE GOING BACK TO ITALY AFTER YOU GUYS.



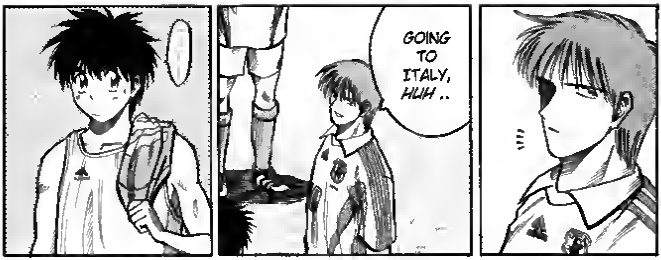


SFX: CLENCH



16

SO, TEPPEI IS GOING TO ITALY!?

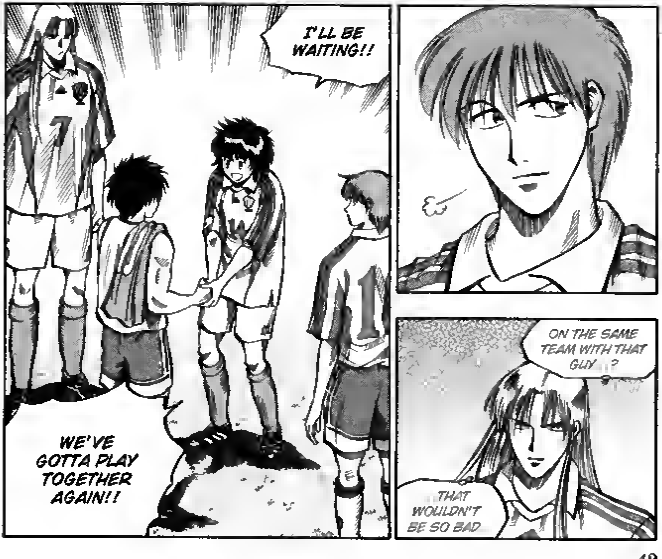

GOING TO ITALY, HUH ..

17

I'M NOT GOING
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO, TEC-CHAN?
LAST TIME, YOU IMMEDI-ATELY REPLIED WITH "I'M NOT GOING", BUT...
JFA
JAPAN

41

THAT'S SOMETHING... I STILL HAVEN'T FIGURED OUT


I'LL BE WAITING!!
WE'VE GOTTA PLAY TOGETHER AGAIN!!
ON THE SAME TEAM WITH THAT GUY...?
THAT WOULDN'T BE SO BAD

I LEARNED MANY THINGS...
I GOT MY FIRST TASTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL.
19
I LOST, BUT I HAD FUN.
SOME THINGS DIDN'T WORK. SOME THINGS DID.
AND ...
MY LEGS ARE TWITCHING
SFX: TREMBLE TREMBLE

20

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98

Chapter 99
The All-Star Team Parts Ways

THE ONE-WEEK YOUTH ALL-STAR PROGRAM FROM THE J-VILLAGE TRAINING CAMP TO THE JAPAN YOUTH CUP HAS ENDED.

PUTTING UP A GOOD FIGHT AND ENDING WITH 2ND PLACE MADE THEM SEEM MORE WORTHY IN THE EYES OF THE PRESS
AFTER WHICH, EVEN THOUGH THEY SUFFERED A 2-3 LOSS AGAINST ITALY...
IN THE JAPAN YOUTH CUP, JAPAN CHALKED UP A 4-2 VICORY OVER MEXICO IN THE FIRST MATCH,

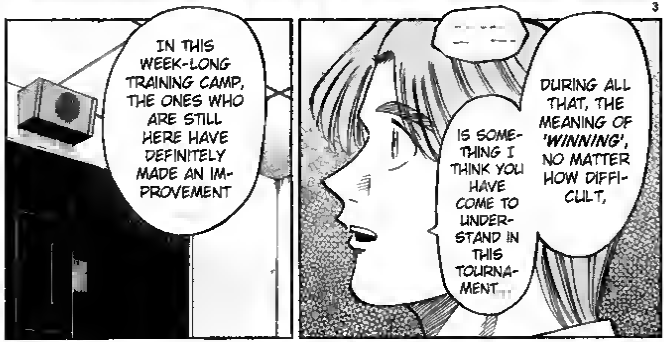
2

D
D
YOU WORKED HARD TODAY...

AS A FINAL WORD FROM ME, ALLOW ME TO SUM THINGS UP.

I'M SURE YOU ALL FEEL PROUD THAT YOU FOUGHT WITH THE WORLD AS YOUR OPPONENT, BUT...

3


IN THIS WEEK-LONG TRAINING CAMP, THE ONES WHO ARE STILL HERE HAVE DEFINITELY MADE AN IMPROVEMENT
DURING ALL THAT, THE MEANING OF 'WINNING', NO MATTER HOW DIFFICULT,
IS SOMETHING I THINK YOU HAVE COME TO UNDERSTAND IN THIS TOURNAMENT.

HOWEVER, AS FAR AS GOING AGAINST THE REST OF THE WORLD, TECHNICALLY AND MENTALLY, YOU STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO!
ESPECIALLY IN MOMENTS LIKE IN THE ITALY MATCH, WHEN THEY HIT US WITH THE FIRST TWO GOALS AND YOU WENT ON THE DEFENSIVE...
YOU ALL LOSING YOUR WILL TO FIGHT.
COULD BE SEEN AS YOU ALL LACKING THE SKILL TO MAINTAIN YOUR FOCUS TOWARDS 'WINNING'.

NEXT, AFTER THE HIGH SCHOOL WINTER CHAMPIONSHIP, WE WILL HOLD A TRAINING CAMP. .
AND WE WILL TOUR EUROPE!

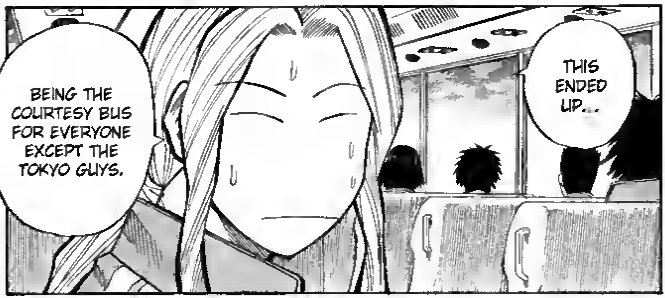
GETTING CHOSEN THEN WILL DEPEND ON HOW HARD YOU WORK FROM TODAY ON...

RETURN TO YOUR TEAMS, OVERCOME THOSE CHALLENGES AND IMPROVE!!
THERE ARE ABILITIES YOU HAVE AND ABILITIES YOU DON'T HAVE...

I WANT TO FIGHT ALONGSIDE YOU GUYS ONE MORE TIME!!

AND NOW, THIS SEASON'S UNDER-18 JAPAN YOUTH ALL-STAR TEAM IS ..
DIS-MISSED. ...!!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!

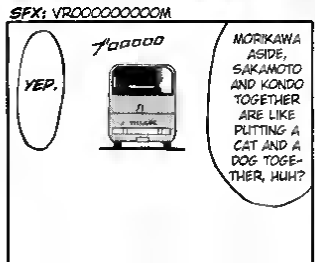
WELL, FIRST WE LEAVE FROM HERE AND A BUS WILL TAKE US TO TOKYO STATION.
SFX: SLUG
WELL, IT'S OVER, IT'S OVER, LET'S GO HOME!!
HOW WILL WE GET HOME?
SFX: SLUG
BULLET TRAIN.
GODAI, YOU'RE FROM SHIZUOKA, RIGHT? HOW ARE YOU GETTING THERE?
OH, OK...
IN FUKUOKA, NAGAKURA AND I ARE TAKING A FLIGHT
SO WE'LL GO TOGETHER FOR A WAYS.
I LIVE IN OSAKA
AND TODO?
WELL, IF YOU'RE GOING TO HANEDA AIRPORT, THEN WE'RE GOING TO TOKYO STATION TOGETHER.
I'm from Kanagawa


THIS ENDED UP...
BEING THE COURTESY BUS FOR EVERYONE EXCEPT THE TOKYO GUYS.

SFX: VROOOOOOOOOM
BYE, SAKAMOTOOOO, KONDOOO, MORIKAWAAA!!!
TEPPEI, KEEP YOUR HEAD UP, BUDDY
SEE YOU ALL AGAIN ....!!

I WONDER IF THOSE THREE ARE ALL RIGHT...
?

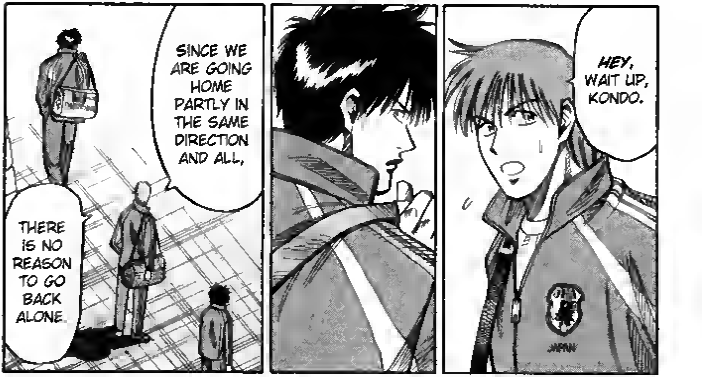
HM HM


SFX: VROOOOOOOOOM
MORIKAWA ASIDE, SAKAMOTO AND KONDO TOGETHER ARE LIKE PUTTING A CAT AND A DOG TOGETHER, HUH?
YEP.

WELL, MORIKAWA WILL THINK OF SOME-THING...
SUCKS FOR HIM TOO....

LATER.

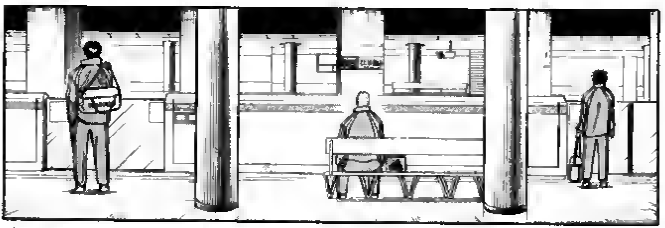
10


SINCE WE ARE GOING HOME PARTLY IN THE SAME DIRECTION AND ALL,
THERE IS NO REASON TO GO BACK ALONE.
HEY, WAIT UP, KONDO.
JAPAN

HOW CON-VENI-ENT
MY SHOE-LACE GO AHEAD WITHOUT ME.
RIGHT, TEC-CHAN?
HM MPF
UGH
FROM THE VERY BEGIN-NING UP UNTIL EVEN NOW, WE NEVER GOT ALONG

THEY WERE ABLE TO MAKE SUCH AN AMAZING PLAY BECAUSE THEY CAME TOGETHER AS ONE, RIGHT?
BUT... IN THE FINAL MINUTES OF TODAY'S GAME..

本蓮沼駅
NO MATTER WHAT ANYONE SAYS, THOSE TWO WERE THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND THIS TEAM...



HEY, KONDO...

WELL, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE EACH OTHER FOR QUITE A WHILE.
I'M A J-LEAGUER
YOU... WON'T BE IN THE HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP, WILL YOU?
WHAT ABOUT IT?

ISN'T THERE ANYTHING ...
YOU WANT TO SAY TO THE TWO OF US?
HEH HEH

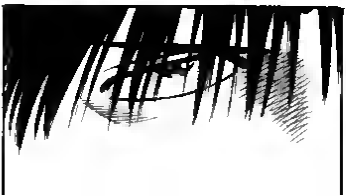
AND YOU WANT TO TRY TO RECONCILE AGAIN?
YOU'VE BEEN OVER-DOING THIS 'LET'S BE FRIENDS' STUFF THIS WHOLE TIME. .

OR..
SINCE YOU DON'T FEEL FIT TO BE CALLED AN ALL-STAR ANY MORE, YOU'RE HOPING TO GIVE ME A FINAL FARE-WELL?

SO, I'LL GO AHEAD AND SAY IT..

AGAIN WITH THIS GUY

14



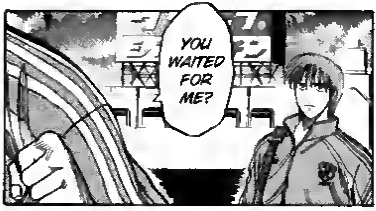
IF THE NEXT ALL-STARS WANT ME TO USE THEM,
THEY'LL HAVE TO KEEP IMPROVING A LOT MORE!!
ゴオオオオオ

SFX: VEEEEM
IN THIS TRAINING CAMP AND TOURNAMENT,
I CONFIRMED THAT I AM THE BEST MAN FOR THE PLAYMAKER POSITION...
ゴオオ

SFX: VOOOOM
I AM GOING TO BECOME SOMETHING MUCH BIGGER FROM TODAY ONWARD.

I...
SFX: PSSSST
SFX: KAAAH
ACKNOWLEDGE THAT GUY'S SKILL...
BUT ...
16
ANYWAY, ABOUT TODAY, TECCHAN, DID YOU NOTICE?
NOTICE WHAT?
WELL... FROM WHAT I HEARD, IT SEEMS HE WAS IMPLYING THAT HE WANTS TO PLAY WITH US AGAIN, DOESN'T IT?
I don't like his attitude!

Of course he forgot...
COME ON, WHEN YOU FIRST CAME TO TOKYO AND HAD THE GAME WITH ME, YOU WERE SCOUTED BY A GUY FROM MILAN, REMEMBER?
MR. ROSSI CAME TO WATCH.
MR. ROSSI?
OH...
YOU'RE COME TO ITALY!
SO, TEPPEI IS GOING TO ITALY?
SO THAT'S WHY HE SAID THAT BACK THEN...
HM MM
SFX: PSHHT
THE STATION YOU ARE ARRIVING AT IS NISHI-NIPPORI. NISHI-NIPPORI.
FOR THOSE TRANSFERING TO THE CHIYODA LINE--



18

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99

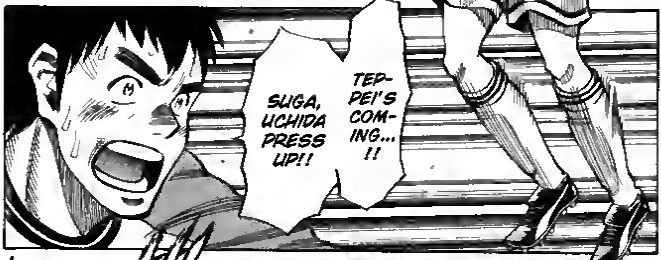
Teppei's Back Home

TEPPEI HAS RETURNED FROM THE UNDER 18 ALL-STAR TRAINING CAMP WHICH HE ATTENDED FOR ONE WEEK.
THE NEWS THAT TEPPEI WAS CHOSEN AS A JAPAN YOUTH ALL-STAR WAS THE TALK OF THE SCHOOL.
AND THEREFORE ...
BUT, EVEN SO ...
I, SHIORI FUKUDA, AS THE MANAGER OF THE FOOTBALL TEAM, FEEL PROUD.

Chapter 100

Teppei's Back Home

SFX: SWOOF



4

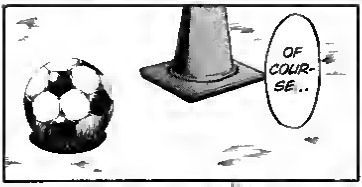
ALL RI-GHT !!
!!
YUITA ...!!
PUT IT IN THE CENTER WITH ONE TRAP!!
BABA IS THERE !!
SFX: BAM
SFX: THUMP
SFX: BOOF
HIS PASS ACCURACY IS WAY UP ...!!
BABA ..!!
5
WOW ...
HE PASSED IT EX-ACTLY IN FRONT OF MY FOOT...

HERE WE GO!!
6
SFX: WOOMF
SFX: SWOOSH
NICE, FUKUDA!!
SFX: BOUNCE
!!
!
WHAT ..!!?
!!
TOO SOFT, FRESHMAN!!

BRING IT, TEPPEI ...!!!
WHA ..!?
AH ...
SFX: SWOOF
SFX: SWIFFF
SH ...
AAA AAA AAA AAA AAA AAH ...!!
Wha...

Hey, Teppei ...!!!
Jerk, you're just trying to make up for your loss against Italy yesterday, aren't you!?
Am not!!
.....
SFX: WUMP
HEH HEH ... IT'S GOOD, MAN.
YOU'VE GOTTEN ONE WHOLE RANK BETTER ...
HEY BRO... YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN YOUR PROMISE, HAVE YOU?

"TO MAKE YOUR SISTER THE GREATEST MANAGER IN JAPAN"!!


OF COUR-SE..

水本

I DID NOT FOR GET ...!!
.....

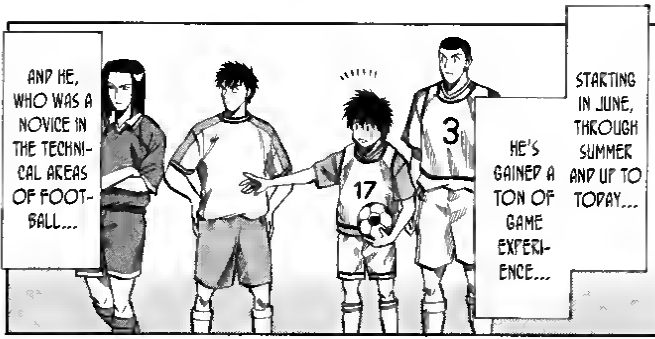
ALL RIGHT!!
EVERYBODY PSYCHE YOURSELVES UP FOR THE PREFECTURAL TOURNAMENT OF THE HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP.
STARTING NEXT WEEK..!!
WOOOOOOO..!!

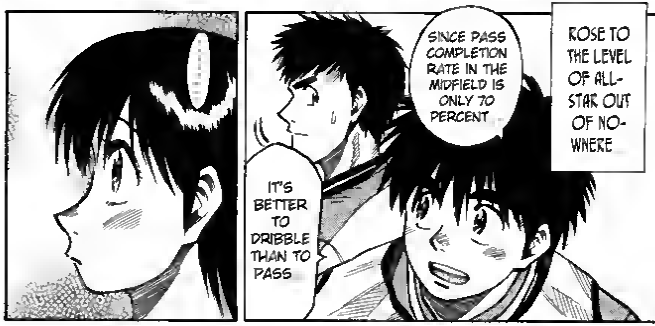
SFX: CLUTCH

10

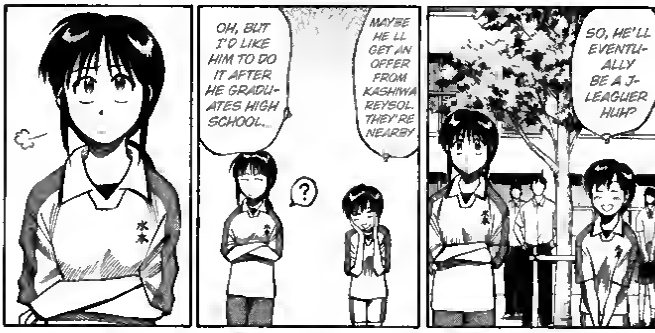
SFX: YAAAAY YAAAAY

THAT WAS TEPPEI'S DEBUT MATCH.
IMMEDIATELY AFTER ARRIVING IN TOKYO, THERE WAS THE MATCH AGAINST TEITOU HIGH, LEAD BY MORIKAWA...
THEN WE GOT THROUGH THE REGIONAL PRELIMINARIES...
FROM THERE, WE HAD THE PRACTICE GAME AGAINST THE WINNERS OF LAST YEAR'S HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONS, TENJIN HIGH...
AND THE UNDER 18 ALL-STAR TRAINING CAMP AND JA; AN YOUTH CUP...

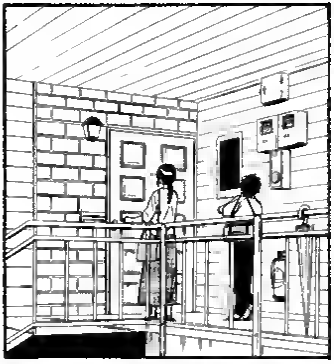

AND HE, WHO WAS A NOVICE IN THE TECHNICAL AREAS OF FOOTBALL...
HE'S GAINED A TON OF GAME EXPERIENCE...
STARTING IN JUNE, THROUGH SUMMER AND UP TO TODAY...
17
3

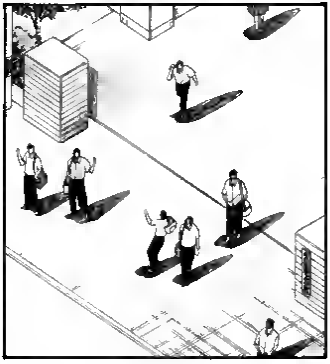

IT'S BETTER TO DRIBBLE THAN TO PASS
SINCE PASS COMPLETION RATE IN THE MIDFIELD IS ONLY 70 PERCENT
ROSE TO THE LEVEL OF ALL-STAR OUT OF NOWHERE

12


OH, BUT I'D LIKE HIM TO DO IT AFTER HE GRADUATES HIGH SCHOOL...
MAYBE HE'LL GET AN OFFER FROM KASHIWA REYSOL. THEY'RE NEARBY
?
SO, HE'LL EVENTUALLY BE A J-LEAGUER HUH?

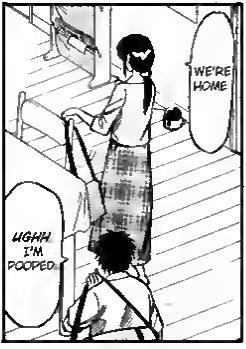
To-
wwvr
oooo
ow!!

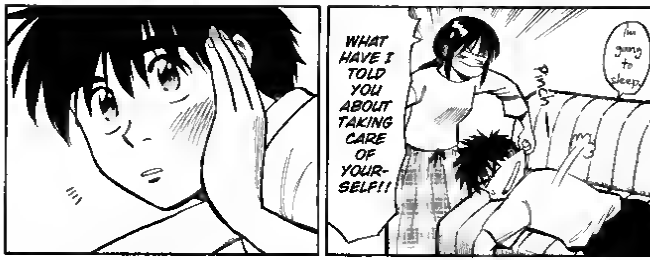




13

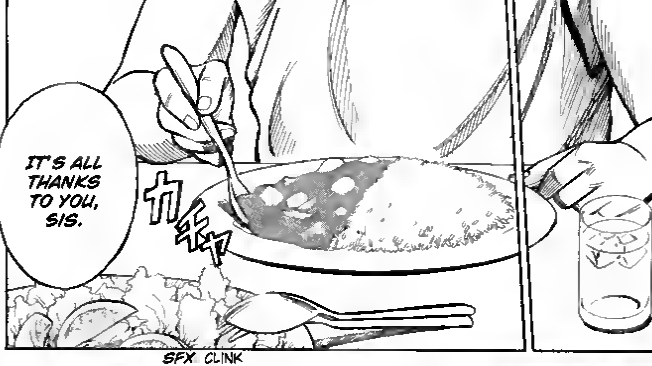
JEEZ, TEPPEI, I UNDER-STAND WANTING TO KEEP PLAYING...
BUT IF YOU REAL-LY ARE TIRED, YOU SHOULD HAVE RESTED UP TODAY


WE'RE HOME
UGHH, I'M POOPED.


WHAT HAVE I TOLD YOU ABOUT TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF!!
I'm going to sleep
PANT

10

I'M GOING TO PREPARE DINNER, SO GO AHEAD AND TAKE A BATH.


IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU, SIS.
カチャ

SFX: CLINK

I WAS ABLE TO MEET GREAT PLAYERS

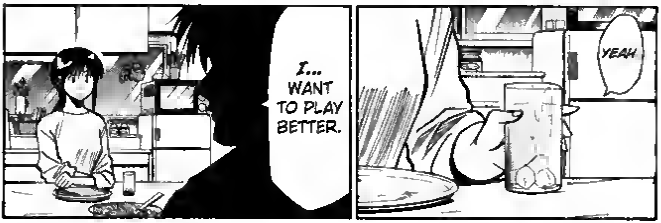
...

WHAT IS? WHY SO FORMAL...?
BECAUSE YOU INVITED ME TO COME TO TOKYO...

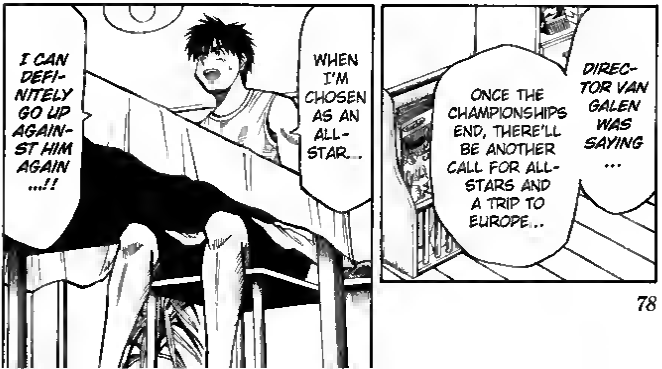
I FOUND SOMEONE I'LL DO ANYTHING TO BEAT!!
ALSO...

I GOT TEAMMATES THAT I WANT TO BE WITH FOR-EVER

THAT GUY IS AWE-SOME!!
YOU SAW HIM TOO, RIGHT ...?
OH, YOU MEAN, THAT MARCO GUY?
YEAH.

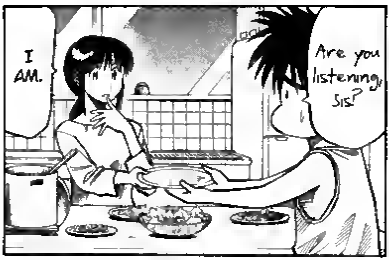

I... WANT TO PLAY BETTER.
YEAH

16


I CAN DEFI-NITELY GO UP AGAIN-ST HIM AGAIN ...!!
WHEN I'M CHOSEN AS AN ALL-STAR...
ONCE THE CHAMPIONSHIPS END, THERE'LL BE ANOTHER CALL FOR ALL-STARS AND A TRIP TO EUROPE..
DIREC-TOR VAN GALEN WAS SAYING ...

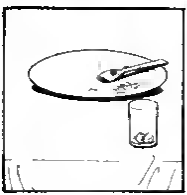
AND I WANT TO BEAT HIM!!

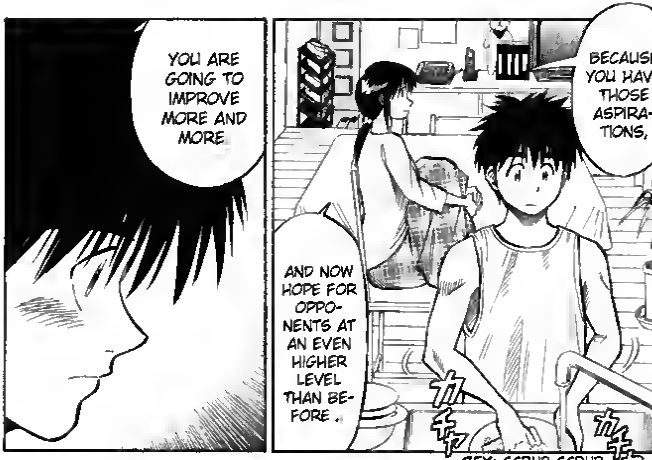
17


I AM.
Are you listening, Sis?

AH, TEPPEI, WANT MORE? SEC-ONDS ..

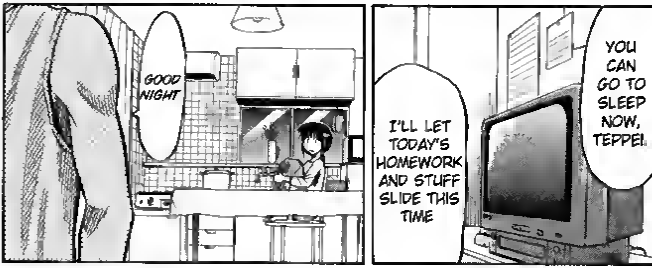
YOU ARE FINE ..



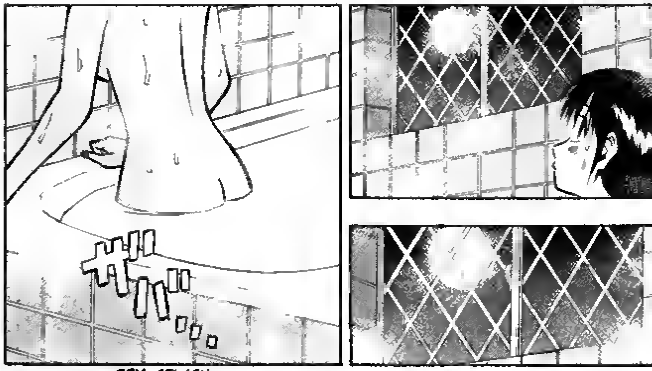

YOU ARE GOING TO IMPROVE MORE AND MORE.
BECAUSE YOU HAVE THOSE ASPIRATIONS,
AND NOW HOPE FOR OPPONENTS AT AN EVEN HIGHER LEVEL THAN BEFORE.
SFX: SCRUB SCRUB

YOU WERE RAISED BY ME, SO THERE'S NO DOUBT.
You think I?

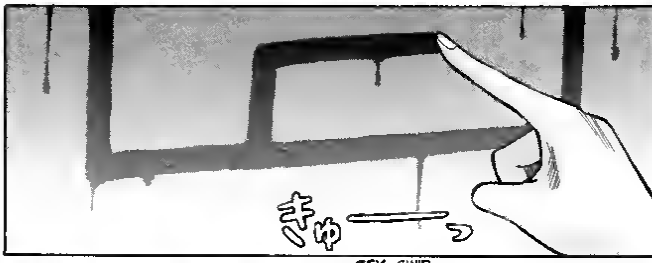
18


GOOD NIGHT
I'LL LET TODAY'S HOMEWORK AND STUFF SLIDE THIS TIME
YOU CAN GO TO SLEEP NOW, TEPPEI.

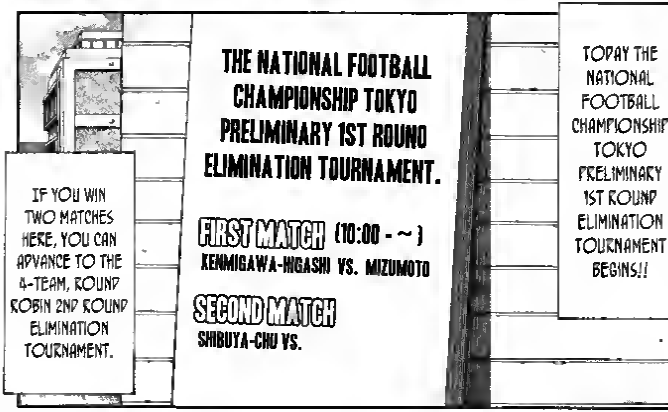
SFX: SLUMP
LORD
SNORE
WOW, FAST
SFX: SHUT
I ENVY HOW THAT KID CAN JUST FALL ASLEEP LIKE THAT

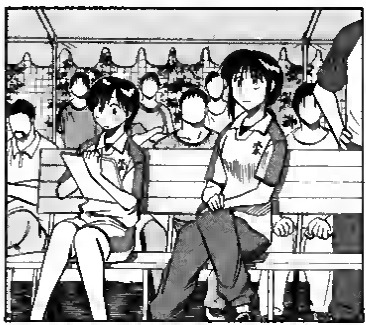


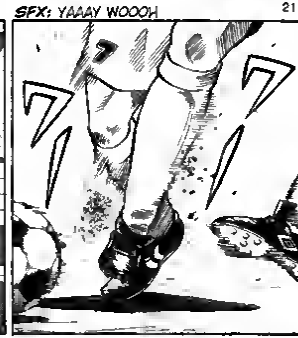
SFX: SPLASH



SFX: SWIP


TODAY THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP TOKYO PRELIMINARY 1ST ROUND ELIMINATION TOURNAMENT BEGINS!!
THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP TOKYO PRELIMINARY 1ST ROUND ELIMINATION TOURNAMENT.
FIRST MATCH (10:00 - ~)
KENMIGAWA-HIGASHI VS. MIZUMOTO
SECOND MATCH
SHIBUYA-CHU VS.
IF YOU WIN TWO MATCHES HERE, YOU CAN ADVANCE TO THE 4-TEAM, ROUND ROBIN 2ND ROUND ELIMINATION TOURNAMENT.

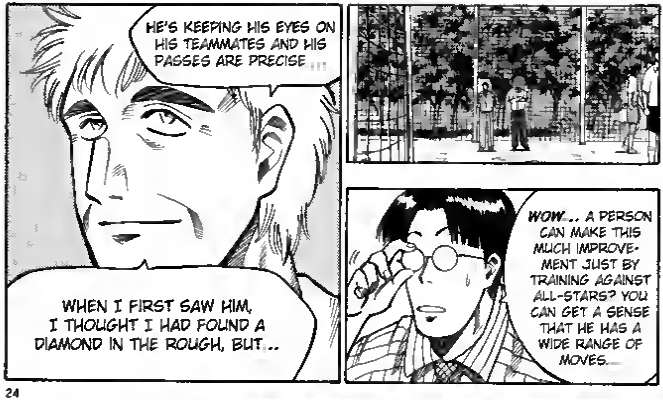



SFX: YAAAY WOOOH

OVER HERE, FUKU ...!!
GHH ...
THAT'S SAKA-MOTO!!
OK!
SFX: BOOOF

KEMITO
KEMITO
I SAW THE YOUTH MAT-CHES TOO...
DAMMIT, WHY DID WE HAVE TO BE CHOSEN TO GO AGAINST THAT GUY'S TEAM...

BABA ...
SFX: BIFF
SFX: SWIFF
CRAP ...
23
SFX: SLAP
NICE SHOT BABA ...!!
WITH A PASS LIKE THAT, ANYONE COULD'VE MADE THE GOAL, BRO!!
MIZUMOTO
MIZU-MOTO MAKES IT A THREE-GOAL LEAD!!
WOW, THAT'S WHAT YOU CALL AN ALL-STAR ...!!
FWIP
SFX: YAAAAY
SFX: YAAAAY


HE'S KEEPING HIS EYES ON HIS TEAMMATES AND HIS PASSES ARE PRECISE...
WHEN I FIRST SAW HIM, I THOUGHT I HAD FOUND A DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH, BUT..
WOW... A PERSON CAN MAKE THIS MUCH IMPROVEMENT JUST BY TRAINING AGAINST ALL-STARS? YOU CAN GET A SENSE THAT HE HAS A WIDE RANGE OF MOVES...

FROM THE DEEP DARKNESS OF SUCH A LEVEL OF SKILL,
SAKAMOTO IS EMITTING SOMETHING BRILLIANT!!
MIZUMOTO

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Chapter:
100

Chapter 101

An All-Star's Grandeur

KEMITO
SFX: YAAAAAAY
SORRY
YOU SHOULD CUT DOWN ON THE TYPE OF REMARKS THAT LEAD TO CARELESSNESS
IT'S 3-0, TWENTY MINTUES INTO THE SECOND HALF.
THE GAME'S BASICALLY OVER..
2
AS I EXPECTED, EVEN THE OTHER TEAM
SEEMS TO BE LOSING THE DRIVE, HUH.
... IS WHAT I SHOULD SAY TO YOU, AND ALL.

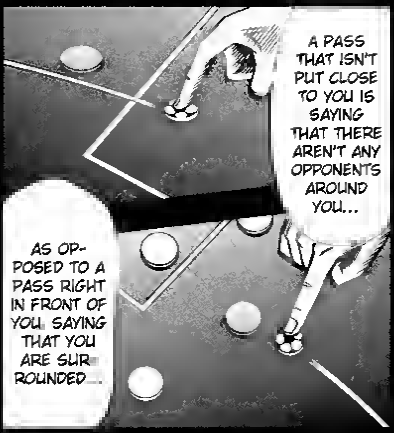
BECAUSE TEPPEI IS REALLY BEATING THEM DOWN
KEMITO
KEMITO
ERGH...
10
TRI-PLE-TEAM HIM!
3
NO HOLDING BACK!! LEAVING HIM WITH THE BALL IS NOT AN OPTION!!
KEMITO

WHAT WOULD MARCO DO!?
!!
KEMITO
SFX: WHOA
WOW ...
WILL IT REACH WITH A SHOT LIKE THAT!?
SFX: THUD

MEANING THERE MUST BE AN OPPONENT ON MY LEFT!!

RIGHT LEG...!!

IN-FOR-MA-TION?
YOU CAN PUT INFORMATION INSIDE A PASS...


AS OPPOSED TO A PASS RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU, SAYING THAT YOU ARE SURROUNDED...
A PASS THAT ISN'T PUT CLOSE TO YOU IS SAYING THAT THERE AREN'T ANY OPPONENTS AROUND YOU...

I see.
FOR EXAMPLE, A PASS TO YOUR RIGHT LEG IS TELLING YOU THAT THERE IS AN OPPONENT ON YOUR LEFT

WOW. THAT ALL-STAR TRAINING CAMP IS THE REAL DEAL!
THEY'RE DOING SOME SERIOUS STUFF
YOUR RAPID IMPROVEMENT MAKES A LOT OF SENSE NOW
WELL, NO ONE CAN ACHIEVE IT OVERNIGHT, HUH...
LET'S LOOK OUT FOR THIS STUFF AND GIVE IT OUR BEST!!
TEACH US MORE, TEPPEI!!
YEAH!
OUR TEAM LUCKED OUT..
THE DIRECTOR...
AND TEPPEI...
WE'RE BEING TAUGHT BY THESE TWO AMAZING PEOPLE..

I WANT TO WIN OUR WAY TO BECOMING A TOKYO REPRESENTATIVE TEAM...
AND GO TO THE NATIONALS WITH THOSE TWO!!
HONESTLY, NUMBER 1 IN JAPAN MAY BE A FAR-FETCHED GOAL, BUT...
SFX: SWOOF
GHH... HIS SCORING AVERAGE IS HIGH!!
BABA ...!!
LET US DO THIS!!
SFX: BOONF

SFX: THWACK

IF I WERE HIM...
WISH...
HOW DID HE GET THIS CLOSE SO FAST?
HE'LL SHOOT TO THIS SIDE!!
KEMITO

IF I WERE MARCO CUORE ...
SFX: BASH

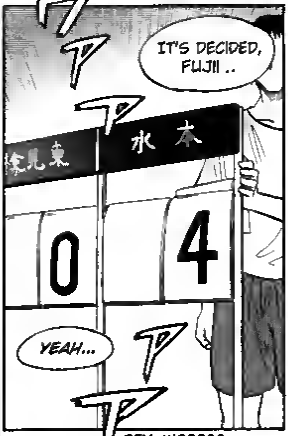
SFX: FWOONF
KEMITO

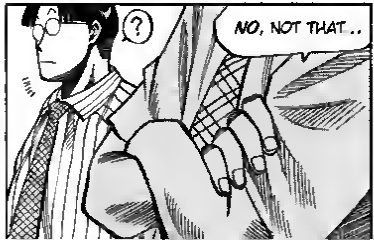
パサ
SFX: SWIFF
YES ..!!
SFX: WHOOOA
INSANE. THAT'S WHY HE'S AN ALL-STAR!!
4-0... THEY'VE WIDENED THE GAP AGAIN!!

HE WATCHED THE GOALIE'S MOVEMENTS AND CALMLY SCORED.
WHEN YOU'RE IN FRONT OF THE GOAL, YOU USUALLY RUSH, YOU KNOW.
MANY PEOPLE ARE PRONE TO GETTING SHAKY AND MISSING...

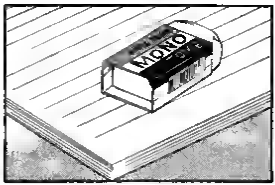
HEH HEH...
YOU'RE SAYING HE'S BECOME ABLE TO TAKE IN EVERYTHING,

WITH A LEAD LIKE THIS, THEIR WIN IS DEFINITE, ISN'T IT..?


IT'S DECIDED, FUJII..
水 木
0
4
YEAH...
SFX: WOOOOO

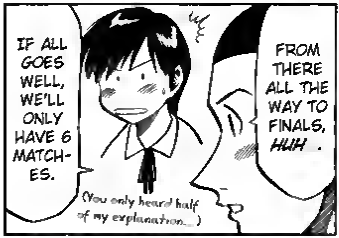

?
NO, NOT THAT..

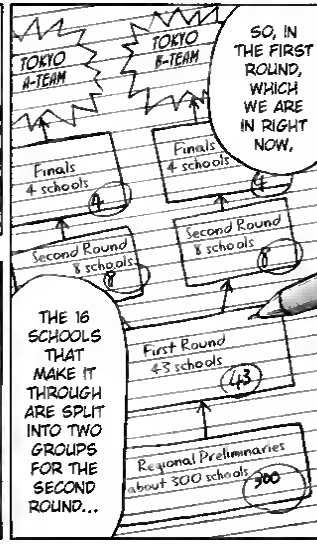
WHAT NERVE
SHIORI, EDUCATE HIM. YOU ARE THE MANAGER, RIGHT?


MOKO

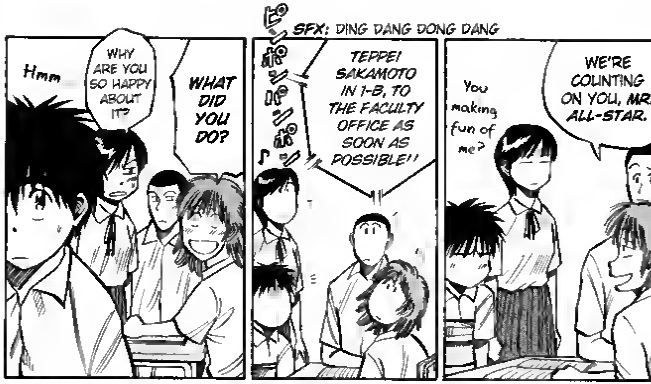
Yup.
WHAT THE? YOU'RE PLAYING WITHOUT EVEN KNOWING THAT KIND OF THING?

13


IF ALL GOES WELL, WE'LL ONLY HAVE 6 MATCHES.
FROM THERE ALL THE WAY TO FINALS, HUH.
(You only heard half of my explanation...)

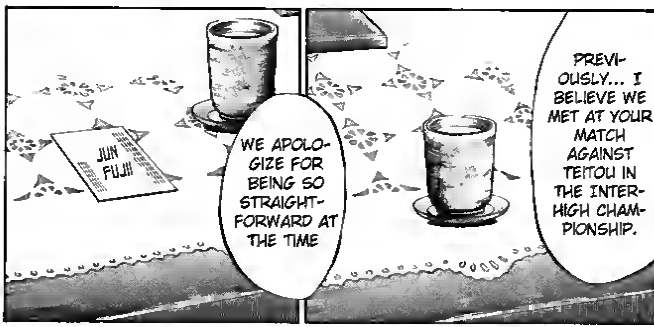

TOKYO A-TEAM
TOKYO B-TEAM
SO, IN THE FIRST ROUND, WHICH WE ARE IN RIGHT NOW,
Finals 4 schools
4
Finals 4 schools
4
Second Round 8 schools
8
Second Round 8 schools
8
First Round 43 schools
43
Regional Preliminaries about 300 schools
300
THE 16 SCHOOLS THAT MAKE IT THROUGH ARE SPLIT INTO TWO GROUPS FOR THE SECOND ROUND...

YEAH.


SFX: DING DANG DONG DANG
Hmm
WHY ARE YOU SO HAPPY ABOUT IT?
WHAT DID YOU DO?
TEPPEI SAKAMOTO IN 1-B, TO THE FACULTY OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!!
You making fun of me?
WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU, MR. ALL-STAR.

RECEPTION ROOM

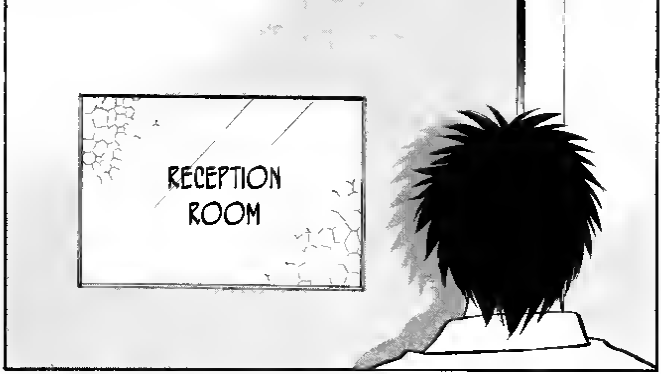
14


JUN FUJII
WE APOLOGIZE FOR BEING SO STRAIGHTFORWARD AT THE TIME
PREVIOUSLY... I BELIEVE WE MET AT YOUR MATCH AGAINST TEITOU IN THE INTER-HIGH CHAMPIONSHIP.

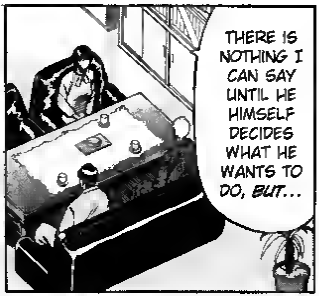
THIS TIME, STARTING FRESH,
HE, MR. ROSSI OF AC MILAN'S SCOUTING DIVISION...
AND, AS A REPRESENTATIVE, I, JUN FUJII...

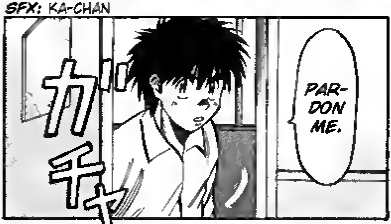
HAVE COME TO INFORM YOU OF AC MILAN'S INTENTION...
In the reception room...
TO FORMALLY INVITE TEPPEI SAKAMOTO TO THE TEAM.

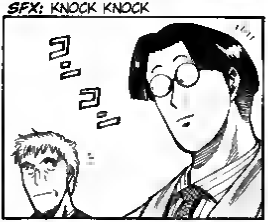
FIRSTLY, DIRECTOR SAKAMOTO, AS HIS GUARDIAN, MAY WE ASK YOUR THOUGHTS ON THIS MATTER?
.....


RECEPTION ROOM

I, PERSONALLY... PLAN TO RESPECT HIS WISHES.


THERE IS NOTHING I CAN SAY UNTIL HE HIMSELF DECIDES WHAT HE WANTS TO DO, BUT...


SFX: KA-CHAN
カチャ
PARDON ME.


SFX: KNOCK KNOCK
コンコン

MR. ROSSI AND MR. FUJII FROM AC MILAN...
TEP PEI ...

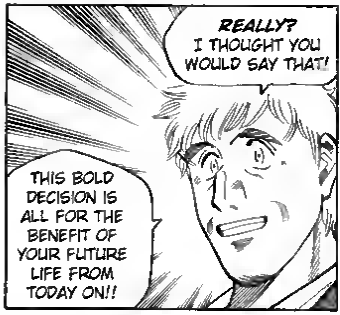
Buonasera, Teppei Sakamoto.
Mi chiamo Alberto Rossi

I'VE ALREADY HEARD WHY YOU'RE HERE FROM MR. SHOUJI...

WELL, THAT MAKES THINGS EASIER.
WE'D LIKE TO HEAR YOUR RE-SPONSE, THEN, TEPPEI!!

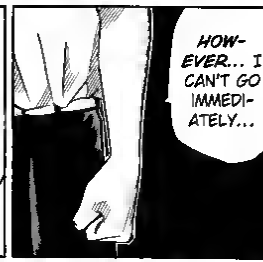
... WANT TO GO TO ITALY!!

I...

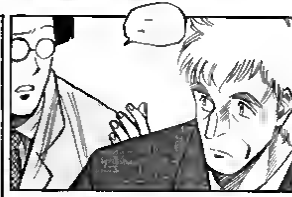

REALLY? I THOUGHT YOU WOULD SAY THAT!
THIS BOLD DECISION IS ALL FOR THE BENEFIT OF YOUR FUTURE LIFE FROM TODAY ON!!

!

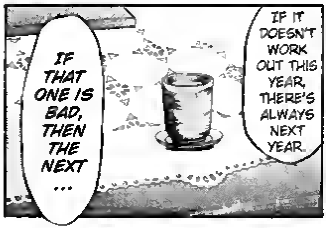
GOING TO ITALY IS WHAT I'LL DO AFTER I DO THE THINGS I HAVE LEFT TO DO HERE.


HOW-EVER... I CAN'T GO IMMEDI-ATELY...

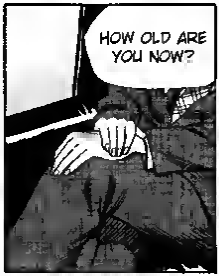
I WANT TO MAKE MY CURRENT TEAM BECOME NATIONAL CHAMPI-ONS...



IS THAT... SOMETHING YOU CAN ACCOMPLISH SO FAST?

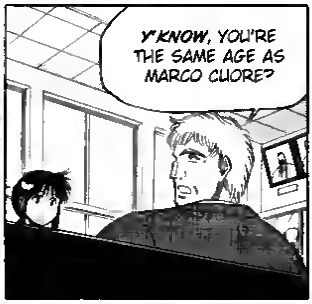

IF IT DOESN'T WORK OUT THIS YEAR, THERE'S ALWAYS NEXT YEAR.
IF THAT ONE IS BAD, THEN THE NEXT ...

16... YEARS OLD


HOW OLD ARE YOU NOW?

19

MARCO...!?


Y'KNOW, YOU'RE THE SAME AGE AS MARCO CUORE?

YOUR PLAYS ARE STILL NOWHERE NEAR MARCO CIORE...
AND SO, FROM TODAY ON...
YOU WON'T CATCH UP TO MARCO CIORE IN YOUR LIFETIME, HUH...

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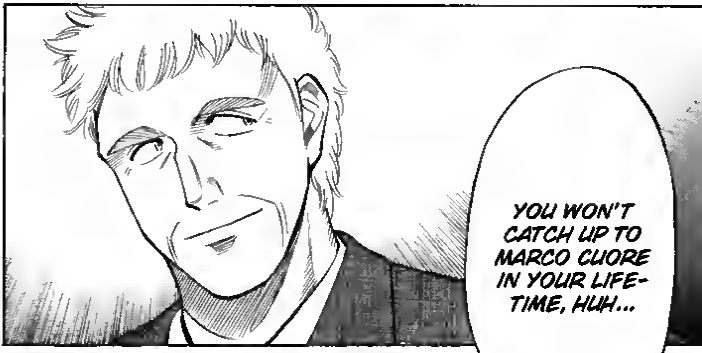
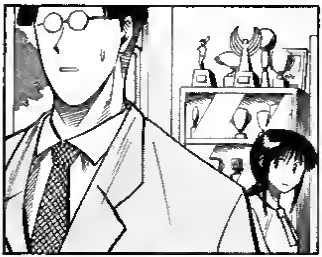
101

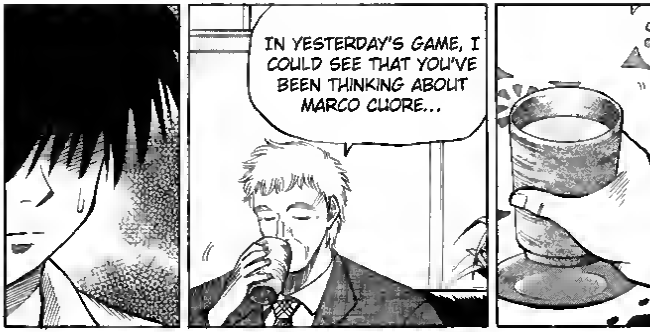
TOMORROW, I'VE DECIDED I'M GOING TO VISIT HIS SCHOOL...
WHAT'S DEFINITE IS MY GUT FEELING.
12
SFX: STARE STARE
HOW MANY DOES IT SAY WE HAVE TO WIN UNTIL WE BECOME TOKYO REPRESENTATIVES?
AS IT STANDS, GETTING INTO THE TOP 16 WILL BE A CAKEWALK
1-B

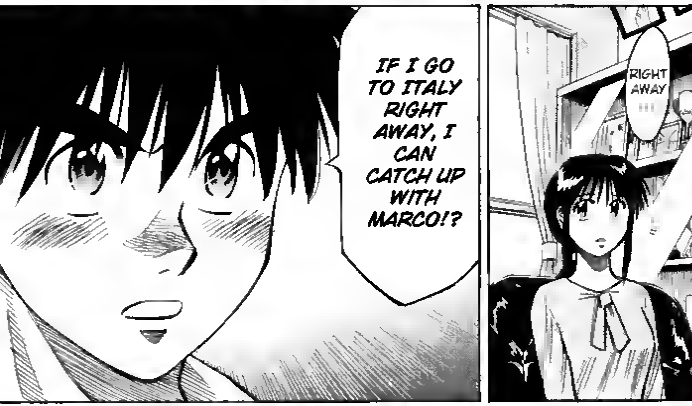
Chapter 102
Resolve

YOUR PLAYS ARE STILL NOWHERE NEAR MARCO CUORE...
AND SO, FROM TODAY ON...

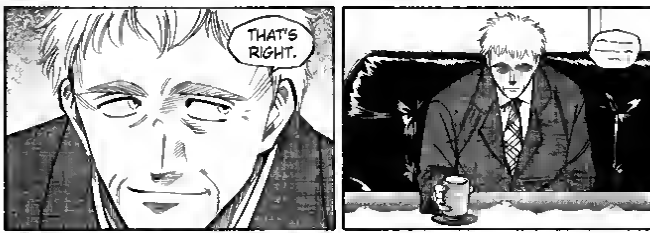

YOU WON'T CATCH UP TO MARCO CUORE IN YOUR LIFE-TIME, HUH...



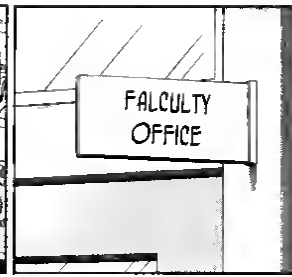

IN YESTERDAY'S GAME, I COULD SEE THAT YOU'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT MARCO CUORE...


IF I GO TO ITALY RIGHT AWAY, I CAN CATCH UP WITH MARCO!?
RIGHT AWAY

3


THAT'S RIGHT.

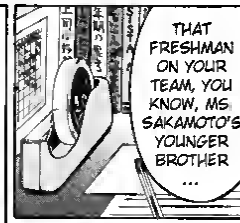
OK, PLEASE PASS OUT THESE FLYERS.

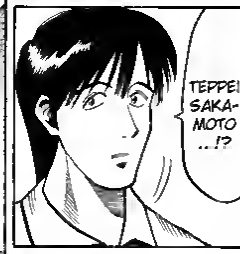

FALCULTY OFFICE

OH, THAT REMINDS ME, KOBAYASHI, YOU'RE ON THE FOOT-BALL TEAM, AREN'T YOU?

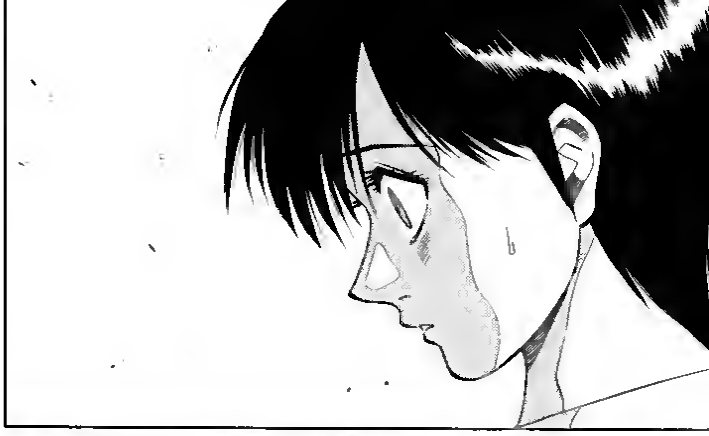
4

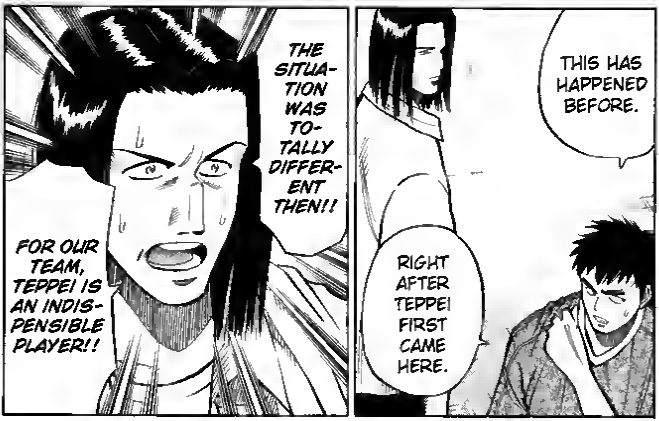
YEAH, WELL... RIGHT NOW, THERE IS A SCOUT HERE.
I DON'T KNOW ANY OF THE DE-TAILS, BUT IT SEEMS TO BE SOME BIG-NAME EUROPEAN TEAM.


THAT FRESHMAN ON YOUR TEAM, YOU KNOW, MS. SAKAMOTO'S YOUNGER BROTHER ...


TEPPEI SAKA-MOTO ...!?

FOR REAL!? 'ZAT TRUE ...!?
FOOT BALL TEAM
THE FACULTY OFFICE WAS RAVING ABOUT IT, SAYING IT WOULD RAISE THE SCHOOL'S REPUTATION.
YEAH... IT'S BECAUSE HE HAD SUCH A GREAT PERFORMANCE IN THE LAST JAPAN YOUTH CUP.
WHA?? REPUTATION SHMEPUTATION!!
IF TEPPEI GOES OFF TO ITALY, WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO!?

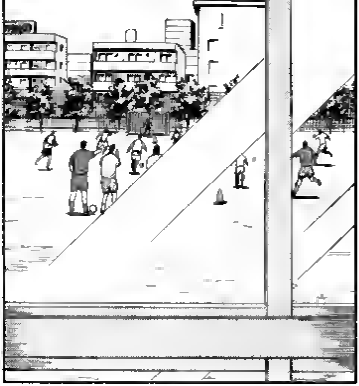



THIS HAS HAPPENED BEFORE.
RIGHT AFTER TEPPEI FIRST CAME HERE.
THE SITUATION WAS TOTALLY DIFFERENT THEN!!
FOR OUR TEAM, TEPPEI IS AN INDISPENSIBLE PLAYER!!

I GUESS THAT'S WHAT THAT CALL OVER THE PA WAS ABOUT EARLIER
HMM PF...
IF HE WANTS TO GO, I THINK HE SHOULD GO.
TOPPER

HE'LL BE ABLE TO BECOME A BETTER PLAYER, RIGHT? IF IT WERE ME, I'D GO HAPPILY.
YUTA ...!
BUT THAT'S WHAT'S BEST FOR HIM, RIGHT?
!
FOOT FALL TEAM
SFX SLIDE
7

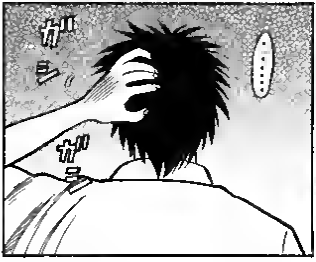
HMPF... I DON'T CARE IF THEY RIDICULE ME ..
6
IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S ALREADY BEEN DECIDED THAT HE IS LEAVING, RIGHT?
SCREW 'EM ALL.
7 SFX: WAAAAAH YAAAAAH
3
10
1
15

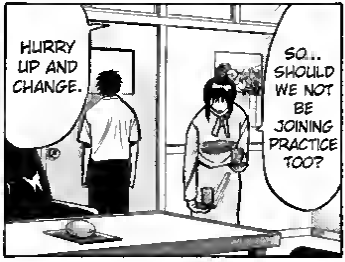


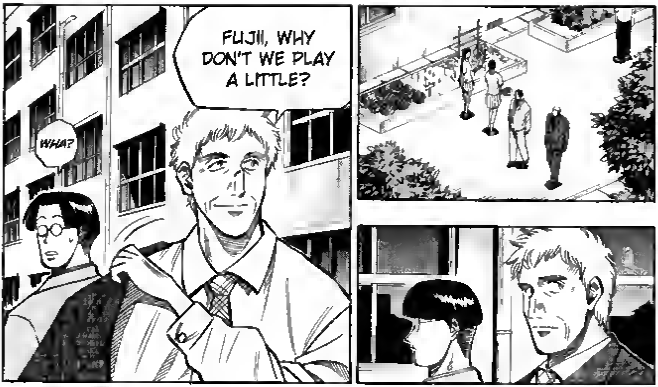
SFX: KA-CHANK

9

SFX: SCRATCH SCRATCH







10

SFX: STEP

W.. WHAT ..!!?
HIM? THE GUY WHO CAME TO RECRUIT TEPPEI..
HE WANTS TO PLAY FOOTBALL WITH US?
15
プラ
プラ

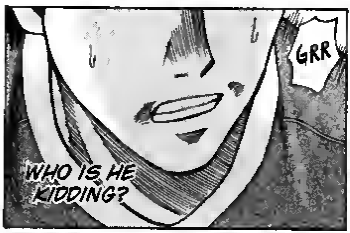
I'LL GIVE YOU $100 ....!!"

WHAT IS HE TALK-ING ABOUT?

"IF YOU CAN STEAL THE BALL FROM ME,
GOD

!!

12


GRR
WHO IS HE KIDDING?

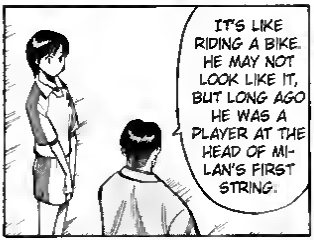
IN DRESS SHOES ...?

TEPPEI WASN'T ENOUGH? NOW HE WANTS TO STEAL OUR PRIDE FROM US, TOO!?
SFX: DASH

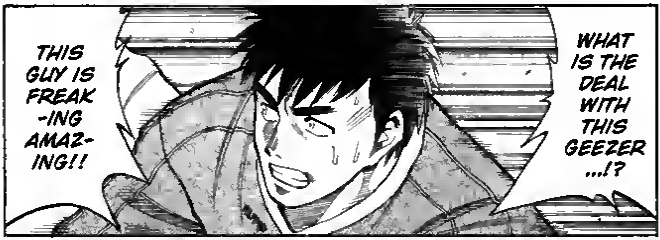
ガガ
OHH..

SFX: SLAM SLAM
SFX: FWIP
HMMF...
HE SEEMS TO HAVE HIS BASICS DOWN....

AMATEUR!!
!!
"COME AT ME WITH THREE PEOPLE ..."
WHAT IN THE WORLD ...
SON OF A-!!

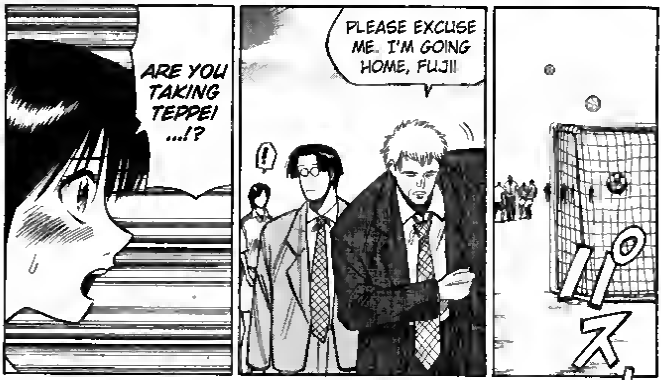

IT'S LIKE RIDING A BIKE. HE MAY NOT LOOK LIKE IT, BUT LONG AGO HE WAS A PLAYER AT THE HEAD OF MILAN'S FIRST STRING.

MILAN... IN SERIE A!?


THIS GUY IS FREAK -ING AMAZ- ING!!
WHAT IS THE DEAL WITH THIS GEEZER ...!?

I RETIRED, SO IT'S BEEN AGES SINCE A BALL WAS STOLEN FROM THIS OLD MAN...
!?
YASUI!!

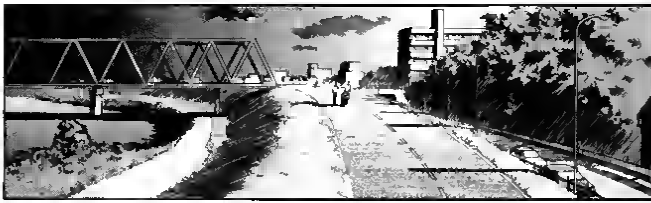
IT WAS HONESTLY CLOSE...
KEEPING YOU FROM LOSING THAT BRILLIANCE IN THIS LACK-LUSTER ENVIRONMENT!!

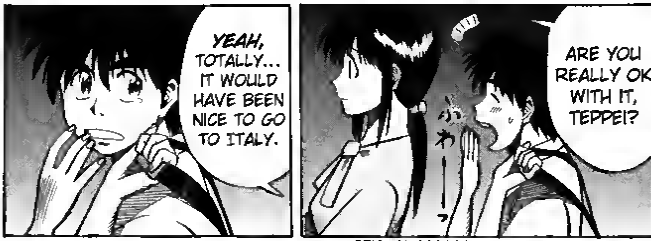

ARE YOU TAKING TEPPEI ...!?
PLEASE EXCUSE ME. I'M GOING HOME, FUJI!
!
SFX: SIFF

TEP PE! ...!!
!

I... AM NOT GOING ANY-WHERE.

ARE YOU TA-KING TEP-PEI ...!?
SHI-ORI, YOU SOUN DED CRUS HED ..!!





SFX: YAWNNNNN SFX: SETTLED!

BESIDES, YOU SAID IT YOURSELF YESTERDAY, THE ONE WHO RAISED ME WAS YOU!!
HE SURE IS STUBBORN.
But, if I say I'm not going, I'm not going!"

IF I COULD GO TO ITALY TO GROW,
THEN I COULD JUST AS EASILY STAY AT MIZUMOTO TO HAVE MY SISTER HELP ME IMPROVE ...!

SFX: SPIN
IT'S NOT GONNA BE EASY
!?

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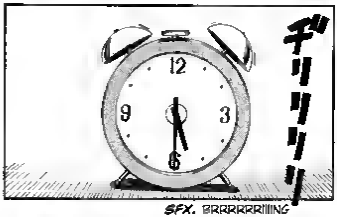
Chapter 103 - Teppei's Upbringing



SFX. BRRR

SFX: SPACED OUT
YEP, I'M NOT A MORNING PERSON
OH, THIS MISO SOUP IS WHITE MISO YOU USED IT RIGHT AWAY HUH
YEP
IN THE LETTER THAT CAME WITH THE PACKAGE THAT MOM SENT US YESTERDAY, SHE SAID
"YOUR SISTER IS A REAL SLUG IN THE MORNING SO DO YOUR BEST TO TAKE CARE OF HER"
3
FOR BREAKFAST, BREAD WILL DO JUST FINE FOR ME
NO A REAL MEAL!! BREAD DOESN'T GIVE YOU ENERGY!
HHHHN... WELL, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO BLURTED OUT THAT YOU WANTED TO GO TO ITALY, RIGHT?
!?
BREAKFAST OVER THERE IS USUALLY A CROISSANT AND A CAPPUCCINO, YOU KNOW

SFX: KA-TUNK
AND, IS THAT WHAT MOM REALLY THINKS OF ME?
OH I'M LEAV ING IN JUST A MINUTE
I'M NOT GOING TO ITALY OR ANY- WHERE ELSE
I'M OFF TO MORN- ING PRAC- TICE!!
4

SO... AS EVERYONE ALREADY KNOWS...
A SCOUT CAME FOR TEPPEI YESTERDAY!!
AND, IT WAS AC MILAN FROM SERIE A!!
BUT, THIS IDIOT TURNED THEM DOWN.
5
?
ポン ポン
...

SFX: PAT PAT

SFX. BUMP
HUH?
STOP TALKING NONSENSE
WE'RE SORRY, TEPPEI
YOU DID IT FOR US.
IF YOU SAY IT LIKE THAT,
THIS KID WILL GET BIG-HEADED, HUH?
6
YOU ALL HAVE THE SKILLS THAT IT TAKES...
SO HAVE MORE CONFIDENCE!!

SFX. CLAP CLAP

7

SFX. WOOSH

UCHIDA !!

OK, STOP!

HUH? NO... I DON'T REMEMBER

THAT PLAY JUST NOW... ISN'T THAT THE SAME PLAY THAT YOU MESSED UP IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE GAME AGAINST TEITOU?
DO YOU RE-MEM-BER?

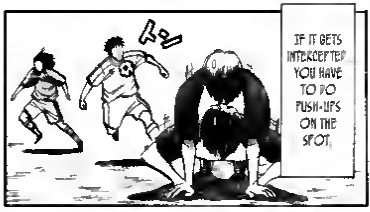
8

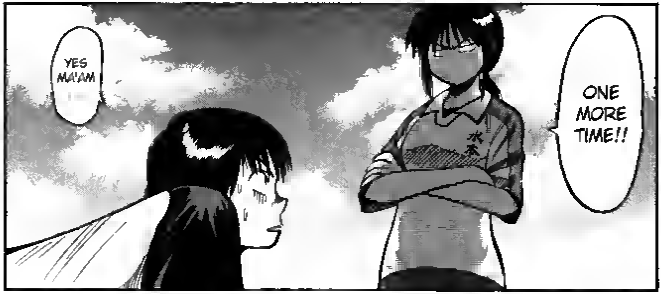
IF YOU ONLY MAKE SHORT PASSES, YOU'LL BE AN EASY TARGET FOR THE OPPONENT'S DEFENSE
IF T HERE IS A SHORT PASS AND A SHORT PASS, MAKE THE NEXT ONE A LONG PASS TO SWITCH IT UP!

IT WAS YOUR PLAY, SO YOU SHOULD TRY TO REMEM-BER IT
Y- YES MA'AM

SFX: BOOF
FUKU !!
CALL OUT THE NAME OF THE PERSON YOU ARE PASSING TO. IT SHOWS YOU ARE DEFINITELY AIMING TO PASS IT TO HIM

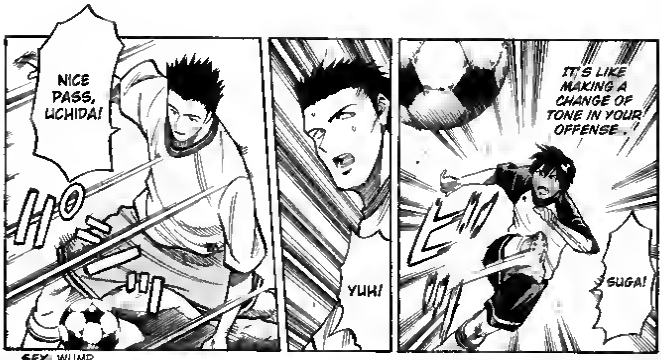
YOU GOT IT?
YES
OK. LET'S TRY IT AGAIN FROM HERE!


IF IT GETS INTERCEPTED YOU HAVE TO DO PUSH-UPS ON THE SPOT.


ONE MORE TIME!!
YES MA'AM

9

SO, THE ODDS OF THEM STEALING THE BALL GO UP!
DEFINITELY... IF IT'S ONLY SHORT PASSES, YOU'LL BE AN EASY TARGET FOR THE GUYS DEFENDING.
.....
SFX. BOONF



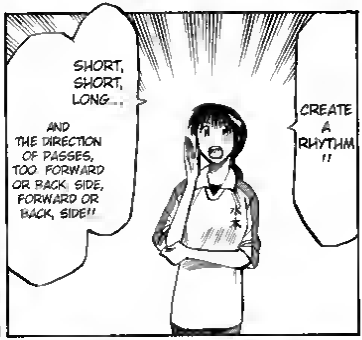
SFX: WUMP

10 SFX: EERK

SFX: GOOD

HEH HEH HEH
YES! LET'S DO IT AGAIN !!
SHE'S GOT A HOLD ON THEM

KOBAYASHI, THAT RIGHT THERE IS GOOD!!


CREATE A RHYTHM !!
SHORT, SHORT, LONG... AND THE DIRECTION OF PASSES, TOO. FORWARD OR BACK, SIDE, FORWARD OR BACK, SIDE!!

THEY'RE REALLY HAPPY WHEN DIRECTOR KOTONE PRAISES THEM

OK !!

THAT'S WHY EVERYONE HERE IS IMPROVING.
UMBRO
TEP-PEI!!
12
SFX: SOOSH
HNN!?

TOO FAST !!
EVEN IF I KNOW HE'S ABOUT TO FEINT, I CAN'T STOP HIM!!
UGGH
SFX: SLIFF
13
HE'S GETTING BETTER AND BETTER, HUH?
YEAH.. IT'S AS IF HE PUT ASIDE ALL HIS DOUBTS
YEH !!

SFX: DISAPPOINTMENT
ガーン
THEY'RE NOT WATCHING!!
GLANCE
SFX: SILENCE
じ
SFX: DASH
AND TEPPEI HAS BEEN GETTING BETTER TOO...
CRAAAAP GOTTA DO IT AGAIN!!
14
SO TEPPEI'S POSITION... DEFINITELY PLAYMAKER, RIGHT?
IT'S COMPLICATED
NOTHING
HHN? WHAT?

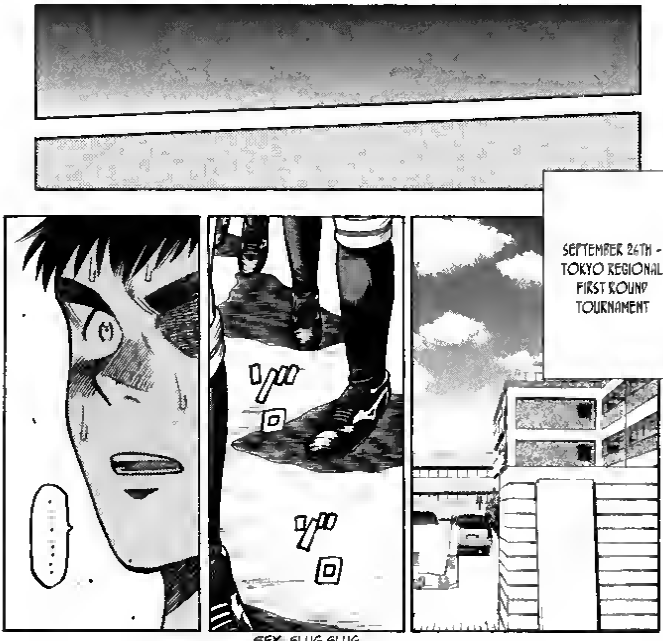
SINCE HE'S BECOME ABLE TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND HIM, I THINK HE COULD DO WELL AS OUR PLAYMAKER.
LMMM. HE DIDN'T MAKE IT TO THE ALL-STARS BUT

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT KOSAKA?

IS THAT OK?
OK. LET'S DO THAT

I'M LEAVING IT UP TO THE CAPTAIN!

SFX: OOOOOOOO



SFX: SLUG SLUG

ドー
SFX:BOOM

THEY'RE AS IMPRESSIVE AS ALWAYS, HUH?
KUJIYAMA HIGH SCHOOL, A SEEDED SCHOOL IS TODAY'S OPPONENT
THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE.
QUANTITY DOESN'T MEAN QUALITY, BRO

SFX: BAM
GUH- HE PUNCHED HIM!!
HEH HEH HE'S PISSED OFF

YOU GOT THAT, MAGGOTS!? ANYONE WHO'S NOT READY FOR THIS CAN QUIT RIGHT NOW!!

SIR YES SIR!!
KUJIYAMA
10
2
"SIR YES SIR", HUH... KINDA SCARY
HOW ABOUT A PROGRAM? 300 YEN A PIECE
THANK YOU.
YOU PAY, MANAGER.
WHICH ONE?
WATCHING THE INTERHIGH PRELIMINARIES, I'VE BEEN COMING UP WITH A LOT OF COUNTER-METHODS AND STRATEGIES BUT...
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN THAT DIRECTOR
GEN TAKAYAMA, 47 YEARS OLD
NAMED DIRECTOR OF KUJIYAMA FOOTBALL TEAM AFTER THE INTER-HIGH

WHAZ-ZAT?
HE HAS AN S-CLASS INSTRUC-TOR'S LI-CENSE !!!?
THAT IS...
SFX: WHISPER WHISPER
ANYWAY, OUR DIRECTOR IS C-CLASS
JAPAN ALL-STARS WITH THAT CERTIFICA-TION
YOU CAN DEFINITELY BECOME A J-LEAGUE DIRECTOR OR EVEN HEAD COACH FOR THE

WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO THE TITLE OF INSTRUCTOR, IT IS LEVELS AND LEVELS ABOVE DIRECTOR KOTONE!!

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Chapter:
103

WE AT IMANGASCANS ARE IN NEED OF JAPANESE TRANSLATORS FOR MANY OF OUR SERIES, OR ELSE THEY WILL BE ON HOLD!!

OR OTHER SERIES THAT WE MIGHT HAVE AND NOT LISTED HERE

PLEASE VISIT OUR IRC CHANNEL AT #IMANGASCANS IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET

PLEASE BE CAREFUL, DO NOT DONATE ON THE PAYPAL ACCOUNT OF "IMANGASCANS" ON ANIMEA.NET, BECAUSE THE MONEY WILL NOT GO TO US, IT'S A FAKE.

OR GO TO IMANGASCANS.ORG AND ASK ON THE FORUMS

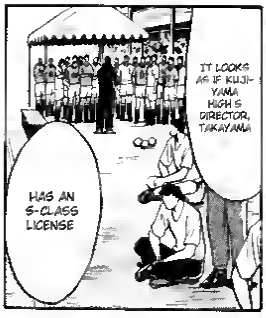
CATERPILLAR OPERETTA

WE ALSO ACCEPT CLEANERS AND TYPESETTERS. LAST BUT NOT LEAST, DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOMED.

WE NEED A CLEANER AND A TYPESETTER FOR THE MANGA HEADS. APPLY IF INTERESTED.

SHINWA PONCHI

Chapter 104
Difference in Guidance

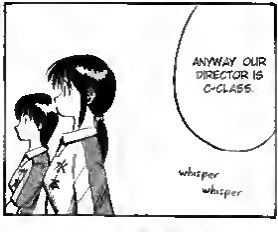

IT LOOKS AS IF KUJIYAMA HIGH'S DIRECTOR, TAKAYAMA
HAS AN S-CLASS LICENSE

DIADORA

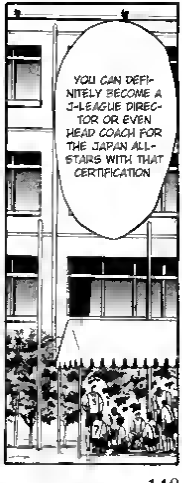
S-CLASS?

2

18

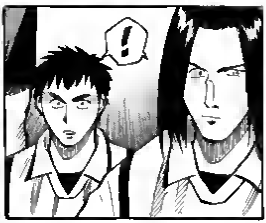

ANYWAY OUR DIRECTOR IS C-CLASS.
whisper whisper

WELL IT'S STILL PRETTY AMAZING
10

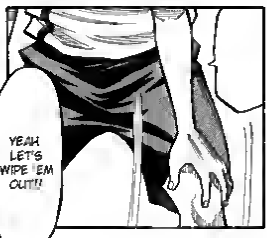

YOU CAN DEFINITELY BECOME A J-LEAGUE DIRECTOR OR EVEN HEAD COACH FOR THE JAPAN ALL-STARS WITH THAT CERTIFICATION

THOSE STANDINGS ARE GOING TO BE WIPED CLEAN.
WELL, AFTER WE WIN ...

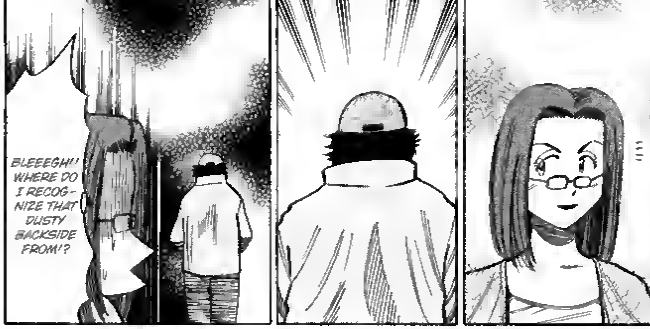
WE WIN THIS FIRST ROUND TOURNAMENT FINAL AND WE'RE IN THE TOP 16!!
水本
7
10
5


!

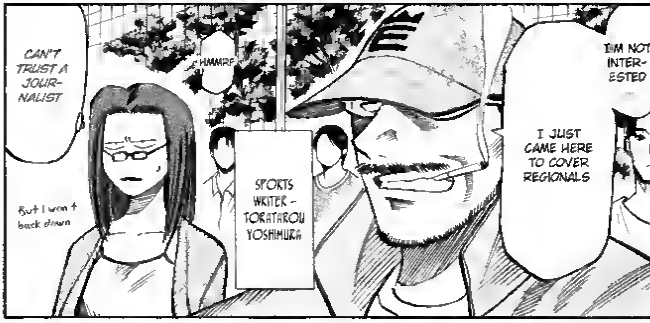
3


YEAH LET'S WIPE 'EM OUT!!

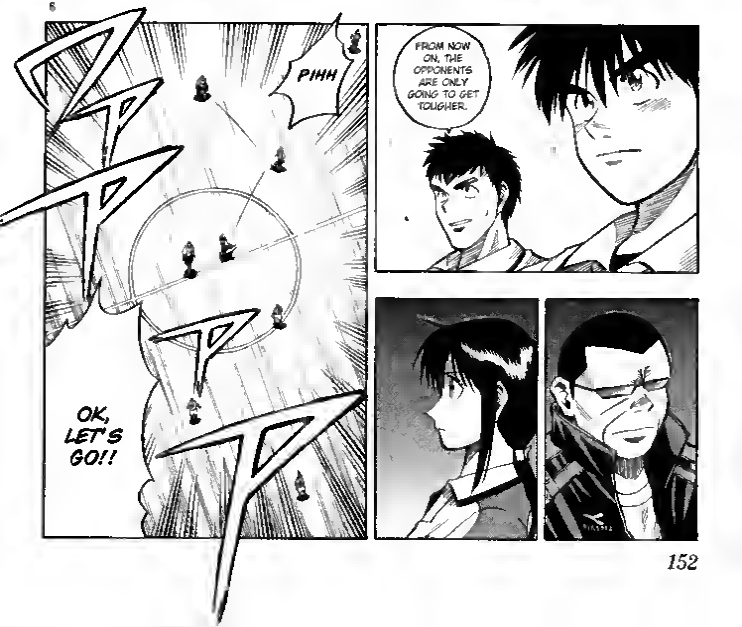
水本
18
水本
11
4
HEH HEH HEH
TOUHOU SPORTS WRITER - YASUKO NARAZAKI
THERE HE IS. THERE HE IS ♡
TEPPEI SAKUMOTO
I'VE PUT MY JOURNALISM CAREER ON THE LINE AND CHOSEN YOU AS MY STORY!!
I'M GOING TO FOLLOW YOU ANYWHERE AND EVERYWHERE, SO STAY FOCUSED!!


BLEEEGH!! WHERE DO I RECOGNIZE THAT DUSTY BACKSIDE FROM!?

DIDN'T I SAY I WAS GOING TO FOLLOW THAT KID?
TOO?
OH YOU'RE HERE TOO, HUH?


CAN'T TRUST A JOURNALIST
HMMPF
But I won't back down
SPORTS WRITER - TORATAROU YOSHIMURA
I'M NOT INTERESTED
I JUST CAME HERE TO COVER REGIONALS

WELL YOU WEREN'T LISTENING TO THE DIRECTOR, MAN
OW IT HURTS HE DIDN'T HAVE TO PUNCH ME.


6
PIHH
OK, LET'S GO!!
FROM NOW ON, THE OPPONENTS ARE ONLY GOING TO GET TOUGHER.

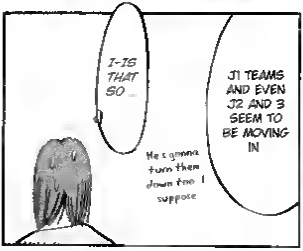
TEPPE !!
7
YEAH !!
FAST BREAK!! BABA, RUN!!
18
9

水本
18
20
ガガ
6
水本
11
NICE PA-
SS
YEAH, SEEMS SO
THREE DEFEND-ERS ON TEPPEI!!
CAN YOU PASS IT, TEPPEI?
YUTA
ヒ

HE WAS COV-
ERING TEPPEI
AND STILL GOT
HERE FAST!!
!!
AKI-
ZUKI
!!
9
YOU'RE
TWO
METERS
AHEAD
OF YOUR
SPOT!!
KEEP
YOUR
EYES
OPEN!!
TERA-
JIMA,
ONE
METER
LEFT!!
YES,
SIR!!

Ugh

NO MATTER WHAT, IT'S NUMBER 18'S (SAKAMOTO) ONE-MAN TEAM!!
AS LONG AS WE CAN CONTAIN HIM, THE MATCH IS OURS!!


I-IS THAT SO...
He's gonna turn them down the I suppose
J1 TEAMS AND EVEN J2 AND 3 SEEM TO BE MOVING IN

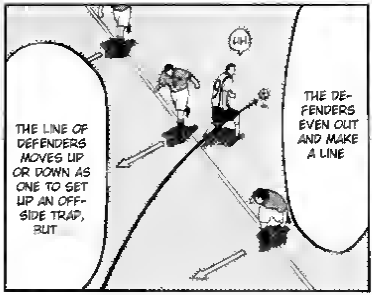
HH HHM, YOU HEARD...
DID YOU HEAR? SAKAMOTO TURNED DOWN A SCOUT FROM MILAN.

10

HE'S GOT MY ATTENTION.
I WONDER WHAT'S IN STORE FOR A TEAM THAT HE IS THIS ADAMANT ABOUT STAYING WITH

TEP-PE!!
HE WAS ABLE TO GIVE THE ITALIAN ALL-STARS A RUN FOR THEIR MONEY!
WITH ALL OF US PULLED IN TOGETHER, WE CAN'T BE STOPPED!
BABA!!

水本
13
TEACHING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO RUN SUCH A BRILLIANT OFFSIDE TRAP!!
THIS DIRECTOR TAKAYAMA'S GOT TRUE EXPERTISE!
OFFSIDE TRAP!
AW, IT WAS JUST GETTING GOOD
OOPS
12
UH
!
PIIIII
18
水本


THE LINE OF DEFENDERS MOVES UP OR DOWN AS ONE TO SET UP AN OFF-SIDE TRAP, BUT
UH
THE DE-FENDERS EVEN OUT AND MAKE A LINE

HUH?
A LINE DE-FENSE ?

14

久遠山
久遠山
久遠山
THE KIDS OF KUJI-YAMA ARE WELL-TRAINED!

THEIR MOVEMENT WAS VERY SMOOTH
IT'S LIKE THEY WERE MOVING IN PER-FECT UNISON

COUNTER!! THEY GOT THROUGH!!
CRAP!
WHA
UCHIDA !!

HIS BACK IS TO OUR DEFENSIVE LINE!!
HE WON'T BE ABLE TO GET THE PASS PAST US!!
NOW, PRESS!!
16
URGHH
AND NOW I'M GOING TO GET THROUGH!
TEP-PE!!
HERE!!
水本

SEND IT BACK TO ME, BABA!
!
TOO LATE!
PIIIH
(OFFSIDE!!)

FROM THEN ON, KUJIYAMA'S METICULOUS COMBINATION PLAYS SUPPRESSED MIZUMOTO'S MOVEMENTS
AND THE FIRST HALF CAME TO AN END WITH NO GOAL-SCORING OPPORTUNITIES
GRRRRRR
PIPIPIIII!

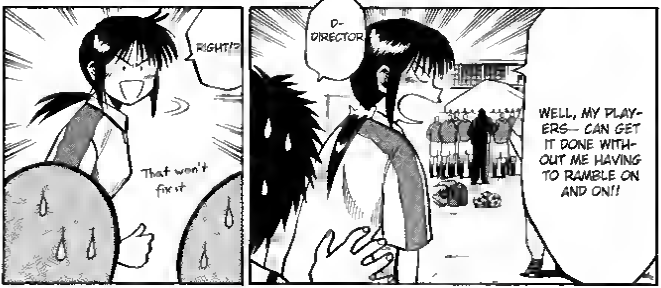
18

THIS IS WHAT YOU GET FOR HAVING ONE JAPAN ALL-STAR ON YOUR TEAM!
AHAHA-HAHA, JUST LOOK!

0
0

GHH WE CAN HEAR YOU
IN THE SECOND HALF, WE PUSH THE LINE UP ABOUT 2 METERS AND GO FOR THE GOAL!!
YES, SIR!!
THEY ARE HELPLESS AGAINST YOUR REFINED TEAM-CENTERED FOOTBALL.

HMMF... WHAT THE HELL. FOR A MAN, HE REALLY BLABBERS A LOT!!


RIGHT!?
That won't fix it
D-DIRECTOR
WELL, MY PLAYERS— CAN GET IT DONE WITHOUT ME HAVING TO RAMBLE ON AND ON!!

IS THAT PESKY LINE DEFENSE, GUYS...
BUT THE PROBLEM AT HAND...

IT WOULD BE TEPPEI'S ONE-MAN TEAM, THEN, WOULDN'T IT?
BUT, IF WE WIN LIKE THAT THEN IT'S EXACTLY LIKE THAT OLD GUY SAID...
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO CUT BEHIND THEIR LINE USING TEPPEI'S SPEED...
NO...
ワイ
ワイ
BUT, THERE'S NO ONE AS FAST AS TEPPEI...
YEAH, I GUESS... AND, I DON'T THINK KOTONE PLANNED TO WIN THAT WAY.

!
TEPPEI!
WE DON'T NEED SPEED.

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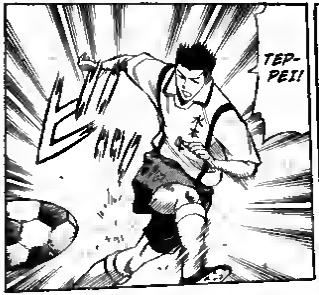
104

CHAPTER 105

MIZUMOTO'S AIM

EVEN IN THE SECOND HALF, KUJIYAMA'S FOCUS STAYED UNBROKEN.
IF THE BALL IS PASSED TO FUKUDA
NUMBER 8 AND 14 WILL PUT A LOOSE COVER ON HIM.
NUMBER 7 WILL COVER 14'S PREVIOUS POSITION
FROM THE START, THEY'VE BEEN USING THE SAME PATTERN TO CREATE A NUMERICAL ADVANTAGE
AND MANY OTHER PATTERNS... SET RULES THAT THEY ARE IMPLEMENTING FLAWLESSLY.

AMAZING-FOCUS!!
THIS IS A SERIOUS THREAT
THE SLIGHEST MISTAKE COULD MAKE THESE TYPES OF ORGA-NIZED PLAYS FALL APART, BUT...


TEP-PE!

FWA HA!
THEY'RE NOT BUILT LIKE US!!

I JUST WANT TO GET TO THE AREA BEHIND THE DEFEN-SIVE LINE
18
4
ハイ!

YES! IT'S NOT AN OFF-SIDE THIS TIME!
RUN, BABA!
OUR RESEARCH WAS CORRECT!
THERE IS NO FAST RUNNER ON MIZUMOTO'S TEAM BESIDE SAKAMOTO!
5
AND AS FOR THIS GUY, HE HAS NO SKILL BESIDES HEADING!
カ
ERGH!

NO WORRIES, BABA!
ON THE NEXT ONE, MAN!
NICE BLOCK!!
NUMBER 9 IS NOTHING!
久米山
.....

WITH THEIR LINE MOVING UP LIKE THAT, I CAN'T EVEN GET TO THE FRONT OF THE GOAL.
I'M CONFIDENT WITH A SCRAMBLE FOR A HEADER IN FRONT OF THE GOAL, BUT...
WE SHOULD REALLY CHANGE POSITIONS, TEPPEI!

THERE IT IS. SELF-CONSCIOUS BABA...
HAD A LITTLE BIT OF THE SPEED TO DO A REVERSAL AND CUT THROUGH TO THE OTHER SIDE LIKE GODAI, THE ALL-STAR.
IF I JUST...
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
HUH?
WHEN IT COMES TO THE HEIGHT FOR A HEADER BABA IS UNBEATABLE
WE DON'T NEED SPEED
THAT'S WHY I THINK WE SHOULD TRY AND RELY ON WHAT BABA HAS THIS TIME.
GODAI AND BABA EACH HAVE THEIR OWN WAY.

NO KIDDING
SO, WE DO THAT AND THEN DO THIS
WHAT IS IT?
AND YUTA, COME HERE FOR A SEC
LET'S TRY IT!
.....
CAN WE PULL IT OFF?
IF IT DOESN'T WORK... WE CAN THINK UP ANOTHER METHOD
18

EYES OPEN!! HE HAS NO OPTIONS BUT TO RUN THROUGH ALONE!!
EVERYONE HOLD ON TIGHT TO YOUR POSITIONS!!
YEAH!! YOU THINK YOU CAN BREAK US SO EASILY?
LET'S WAIT AND SEE
WILL IT WORK?
HNN WHAT ARE THEY GONNA DO?

WHA
!?
!?
HUH?
81
191

WH.. WHAT THE!?
20
9

IT'S NOT AN OFFSIDE!!

NOW, BABA, RUN TO WHERE IT'LL LAND!!

ALL RIGHT, THAT WAS THEIR PLAN!!

!?
OK!
20
9

AND THEN...
SO THE SLOW-FOOTED NUMBER 9 COULD CATCH UP TO IT!!
THEY PREVENTED THE OFF-SIDE BY LOBBING IT UP (KICKING THE BALL HIGH AND LOOSE).
13
BUT
IT'S STILL FAR FROM THE GOAL!!
HE CAN'T TAKE THE SHOT!!
A BATTLE OF HEIGHT IS NUMBER 9'S STRONG SUIT!!!
9

ガ
WAAAAAAAA!?
BACK-WARDS WITH A BACK-HEADER!?
IT'S NOT OFF-SIDE!!
THAT'S WHAT WE WERE GOING FOR!!

THANKS IN ADVANCE
!!
YESSSSSSSS
MR-RRRR RRF..
15
IT WENT WELL, HUH?
NICE SHOT !!

THE LOB WASN'T MADE JUST TO LET NUMBER 9 CATCH UP!!
WITH NUMBER 9 PULLING THE DEFENDERS OFF, IT ALSO ALLOWED NUMBER 11 TO PASS THEM AND GET TO THE OPEN SPACE!!

YEP... THIS WILL GIVE US THE MOMENTUM I THINK.

YESS! LET'S KEEP GETTING IT TO BABA LIKE THAT!!

WHAT!? SAKAMOTO'S GOING TO DRIBBLE IT UP THIS TIME!?

NO!
TO THE SIDE!!

ち、う。

SUGA
GOT IT!
STRICT, SYSTEMATIC FOOTBALL...
IF THERE IS EVEN ONE PLAY THAT ISN'T IN THE MANUAL,
IT'S CHAOS

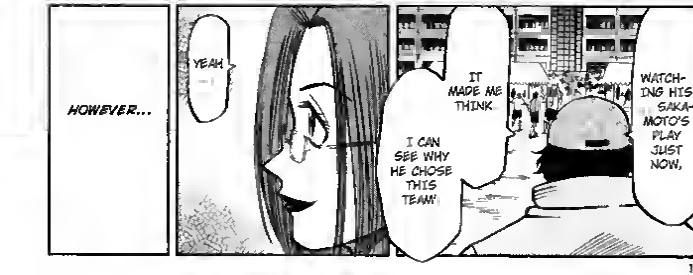
AND THE PERSON THAT CREATES THAT PLAY WOULD BE THE FANTA-SISTA, RIGHT?
YOU IDIOT TAKA-SAKI !!
THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN AN OFF-SIDE!!

GRRRRR
GOOD

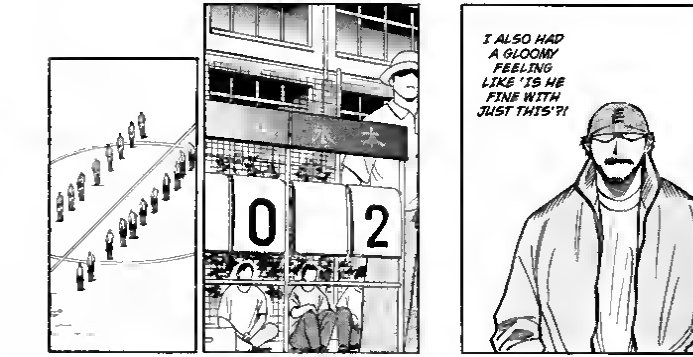
THERE IS A DIFFERENT ENJOYMENT HERE THAN WITH THE ALL-STAR TEAM.

THINKING TOGETHER.
GOING TOWARDS THE FINISH LINE TOGETHER. THE TOGETHERNESS OF BECOMING ONE...

THAT SIS TAUGHT ME!!
AND MORE THAN ANYTHING, THE ENJOYMENT OF TRYING OUT THE FOOTBALL...
18


HOWEVER...
YEAH.
I CAN SEE WHY HE CHOSE THIS TEAM!
IT MADE ME THINK
WATCHING HIS SAKAMOTO'S PLAY JUST NOW,

19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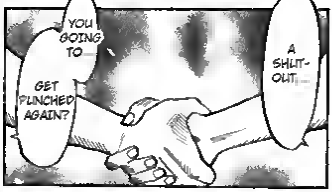
2
I ALSO HAD A GLOOMY FEELING LIKE 'IS HE FINE WITH JUST THIS'?!


YOU GOING TO...
GET PUNCHED AGAIN?
A SHUT-OUT...

THERE'S NO PAIN AT ALL
HEH HEH... BUT IT'S THANKS TO THE COACH THAT WE'VE GOTTEN THIS GOOD

YEAH!
LET'S KEEP RISING UNTIL WE'RE THE TOKYO REPRESENTA-TIVES!!

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